

Clinton Seeks to Close Book on Benghazi



Democratic presidential candidate, former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton takes her seat on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015, prior to testifying before the House Benghazi Committee. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci) Page 4

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Russia shows military might in Syria, also pushes diplomacy

V. ISACHENKOV
Associated Press

HEMEIMEEM AIR BASE, Syria
(AP) — As Russia unleashed waves of warplanes Thursday from this air base in western Syria to pound militant targets, President Vladimir Putin pushed diplomatic efforts with the West, stressing the need “to consider each other as allies in a common fight.”

Russia put its military muscle on display, bringing Moscow-based reporters to view a day's worth of fighter jets roaring off a runway in dozens of sorties as helicopter gunships patrolled the edges of the sprawling facility.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry will meet Friday in Vienna, joined by their counterparts from Saudi Arabia and Turkey, both staunch critics of President Bashar Assad.

Lavrov said he wanted to provide “firsthand information” about the Russian air campaign against Islamic State militants in Syria, but also talk about a future political process in the country that is now in its fifth year of civil war.

The U.S. and other Western powers have questioned Russia's primary motive in the airstrikes that began Sept. 30 and have backed up a Syrian government offensive in central and northwestern regions. Moscow says it is fighting IS and other extremist groups like the al-Qaida-linked Nusra Front, but Washington and others say the intervention is to prop up Assad and is likely to fan the violence.

The intervention is also allowing Russia to portray itself as a major global player, projecting its military power far from its borders. Assad met Tuesday with Putin in a surprise visit to Moscow to discuss the military operations. In a speech Thursday at a conference in Russia's southern resort of Sochi, Putin said Syria's leaders “should establish working contacts with those opposition forces that are ready for dialogue.”

“As I understood from my conversation with President Assad the day before yesterday, he is ready for such a dialogue,” Putin added. A military victory over the militants “will not solve all problems, but it will create conditions for the main thing: a beginning of a political process to encompass all healthy, patriotic forces of the Syrian society,” Putin said.

His words echoed those of Syrian government officials who have expressed readiness to negotiate with the “patriotic” opposition — a term generally used to describe unarmed, mostly Damascus-based government critics who are tolerated by Assad.

Putin also said Russia and the West are establishing contacts to coordinate their operations.

“We are close to the start of exchanging information with our Western counterparts on positions and movements of the militants. This is certainly a step in the right direction. The most important thing is to consider each other as allies in a common fight.”

Putin said he asked Assad about how he would view it if Russia identified Syrian armed opposition groups “prepared to oppose and really fight terrorists, IS. How would you regard it if we support their efforts in the fight with terrorism in the way that we are supporting the Syrian army?”

He said Assad responded: “I regard this positively.”

The Kremlin said Putin also talked on the phone with the leaders of Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Jordan ahead of the Friday session.

Lavrov said in televised remarks that Moscow is eager to invite other countries from the region to the talks, especially Iran — another supporter of Assad.

Although Lavrov said that Russia had agreed to meet with the U.S., Saudi Arabia and Turkey, he reiterated that Moscow “remained convinced” that a settlement of the Syrian crisis had no future without the



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Russian pilots climb to their Su-30 jet at Hemeimeem Air Base, Syria, on Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015. Since early morning, Russian combat jets have been taking off from this base in western Syria, heading for missions. (AP Photo/Vladimir Isachenkov)

involvement of Iran. In Berlin, Kerry said the U.S., Iran, Russia and Europe agree Syria should be unit-

ed and that Syrians should choose their own future leadership, but “one thing stands in the way of being

able to rapidly move to implement that and it's a person called Assad, Bashar Assad.” □



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Clinton seeks to close the book on Benghazi case



House Benghazi Committee Chairman Rep. Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., left, and the committee's ranking member Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md., have a heated discussion on the dais on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015, as Democratic presidential candidate, former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton testified before the committee.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

BRADLEY KLAPPER
MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton strove to close the book on the worst episode of her tenure as secretary of state Thursday, battling hours of Republican questions in a hearing that grew contentious but revealed little new about the 2012 attacks in Benghazi, Libya. She firmly defended her record while seeking to avoid any mishap that might damage her presidential campaign. Democrats have accused the Republicans of using

the investigation as a ploy to derail Clinton's White House bid, noting that it is the eighth congressional investigation into the attacks. But the hearing comes at a moment of political strength for Clinton, the front-runner for the Democratic nomination. On Wednesday, a potential rival for the nomination, Vice President Joe Biden, announced he would not join the race. Clinton also is riding the momentum of a solid debate performance last week.

Pressed about events before and after the deaths

of four Americans, Clinton had confrontational exchanges with several Republican lawmakers but also fielded supportive queries from Democrats. The most combative moments focused on accusations about the Obama administration's shifting early public accounts of the attacks. However, five hours into the hearing, Republicans had yet to ask the Democratic presidential front-runner a single question about the night of Sept. 11, 2012, itself. The committee's chairman, Trey Gowdy, portrayed the panel as focused on the

facts after comments by fellow Republicans describing it as an effort designed to hurt Clinton's presidential bid. Democrats have pounced on those earlier remarks and have pointed out that the probe has now cost U.S. taxpayers more than \$4.5 million and, after 17 months, has lasted longer than the 1970s Watergate investigation.

Gowdy, a former federal prosecutor, said the Republicans' efforts were not a prosecution.

Contradicting him, Rep. Adam Smith, a Democrat from Washington, told Clin-

ton: "The purpose of this committee is to prosecute you." In one tense moment, Republican Rep. Jim Jordan accused Clinton of deliberately misleading the public by linking the Benghazi violence at first to an Internet video insulting the Muslim Prophet Muhammad. Clinton, stone-faced for much of the hearing, smiled in bemusement as Jordan cut her off from answering. Eventually given the chance to comment, she said only that "some" people had wanted to use the video to justify the attack that killed Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans, and that she rejected that justification.

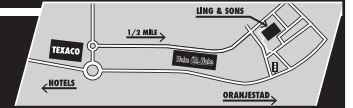
The argument went to the origins of the disagreement over Benghazi and how President Barack Obama and his top aides represented the attack in the final weeks of his re-election campaign. And it reflected some of the raw emotion the deadly violence continues to provoke, something Clinton will have to face over the next year of her White House bid even if the Republican-led special investigation loses steam. For Clinton, the political theater offered opportunity and potential pitfalls. It gave her a high-profile platform to show her self-control and command of foreign policy. But it also left her vulnerable to claims that she helped politicize the Benghazi tragedy. □

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Obama vetoes \$612 billion US bill in rebuke to Republicans



President Barack Obama vetoes the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015, in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington. The president vetoed the sweeping \$612 billion defense policy bill, citing objections over how the measure is funded.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

JOSH LEDERMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama vetoed a sweeping \$612 billion defense policy bill Wednesday in a rebuke to congressional Republicans, and insisted they send him a better version that doesn't tie his hands on some of his top priorities. In an unusual veto ceremony, Obama praised the bill for ensuring the military stays funded and making improvements on military retirement and cybersecurity. Yet he pointedly accused Republicans of re-

sorting to "gimmicks" and prohibiting other changes needed to address modern security threats. "Unfortunately, it falls woefully short," Obama said. "I'm going to be sending it back to Congress, and my message to them is very simple: Let's do this right." The rare presidential veto marked the latest wrinkle in the ongoing fight between Obama and Republicans who control Congress over whether to increase federal spending — and how. Four years after Congress passed and Obama signed into law strict, across-the-

board spending limits, both parties are eager to bust through the caps for defense spending. But Obama has insisted that spending on domestic programs be raised at the same time, setting off a budget clash with Republicans that has yet to be resolved. To side-step the budget caps, known in Washington as sequestration, lawmakers added an extra \$38.3 billion to a separate account for wartime operations that is immune to the spending limits. The White House has dismissed that approach as a "gimmick"

that fails to deal with the broader problem or provide long-term budget certainty for the Pentagon. Obama also rejects the bill as written due to provisions making it harder for him to transfer suspected terror detainees out of the military prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, a key campaign promise that Obama is hard-pressed to fulfill before his term ends. The White House has also

expressed concerns over provisions preventing military base closures and funding equipment beyond what the military says it needs.

"This is the worst possible time for an American president to veto their national defense bill, and especially to do so for arbitrary partisan reasons," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said on the Senate floor. □

Paul Ryan is in, will seek House Speaker post

ERICA WERNER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. Paul Ryan is formally declaring his candidacy for speaker of the House after getting unified support from across the Republican conference. The Wisconsin lawmaker and onetime Republican vice presidential nominee

will be all but assured of triumphing in elections next week. He made the announcement in a letter to colleagues. Ryan sought unity from divided Republicans as a condition for his candidacy. He succeeded in getting support from three major

caucuses within the party, including the hardline Freedom Caucus that forced the current speaker, John Boehner, to announce his resignation. Ryan would inherit a House with major budgetary and spending deadlines on the horizon. At 45 he would become one of the youngest House speakers. □

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Police:

Man admits to road rage killing of New Mexico girl



This photo provided by the Albuquerque Police Department shows Tony Torrez. Torrez was arrested and acknowledged shooting 4-year-old Lilly Garcia while she was riding in the backseat of her father's pickup truck with her 7-year-old brother a day earlier, police said.

(Albuquerque Police Department via AP)

M. HUDETZ, R. CONTRERAS
Associated Press
ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico (AP) — A man confessed to shooting and killing a 4-year-old girl while arguing with her father in the southwestern city of Albuquerque, police said, without offering more details on what led to the ap-

parent road rage. Tony Torrez, 32, was arrested Wednesday and admitted to shooting Lilly Garcia while she was riding in the backseat of her father's pickup truck with her 7-year-old brother a day earlier, police said. He has been charged with murder, assault, child abuse and other crimes.

The children's father picked them up from school Tuesday when someone in a Toyota opened fire on the family as they traveled down Albuquerque's main east-west freeway.

The father told authorities that he was trying to exit the freeway when a car forced him out of his lane, a police statement said.

"The two drivers exchanged words when Torrez pulled out a gun and shot at the red truck driven by Lilly's father," the statement continued. "Lilly was hit at least once in the head."

The father pulled over and tried to give his daughter first aid as a bystander called police.

The little girl's grandfather said the attack left the family deep in mourning.

"They really have to do something about this. It's a problem," Jose Garcia said, referring to gun violence.

In a roughly minute-long call released by police, a man alerts a dispatcher to

a truck stopped on a median with "an adult holding an unresponsive child."

Two nurses showed up and tried save the girl's life, then an ambulance rushed her to the hospital, where she died, Albuquerque Police Chief Gordon Eden said.

Authorities quickly began pressing the public for tips, offering about \$25,000 for information leading to the arrest of the shooter.

Police said an anonymous caller provided the name of a possible suspect Wednesday. With that information and tips from the community, detectives found the suspect and detained him without problems.

"This evening, Torrez confessed to investigators he was responsible for the murder," the police statement said. He is being held on a \$650,000 cash-only bond.

It's not clear what led the incident to escalate, but the father told officers the shooting was the result of road rage. □

APNewsBreak:

Former pitchman Fogle's victims get \$1 million

RICK CALLAHAN
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Ten victims of former pitchman Jared Fogle have received a total of \$1 million in restitution since he agreed to plead guilty to child pornography and sex-crime charges, and his four other victims could receive their checks by the time he is sentenced next month — a move prosecutors said is rare.

The \$100,000 checks were hand-delivered to each of the 10 victims or their parents over the last several weeks, with each signing a form saying they had received the money and that it is intended to benefit that particular victim, Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven DeBrotta told The Associated Press on Thursday.

DeBrotta said he's handled only one other case in which restitution was paid to victims before sentencing in nearly a quarter-century of prosecuting child porn cases.

By the time a federal judge sentences Fogle on Nov. 19 to a minimum of five years in prison, DeBrotta said prosecutors expect to have either presented \$100,000 checks to Fogle's four other victims or have plans in place to disburse those funds to them.

That money will pay for mental health counseling, medical care and other needs the 14 victims might have now or in the future to help them recover from the trauma. □

Man who brought fake chips to poker match gets prison

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — A poker player is going to prison for bringing millions of dollars in counterfeit chips to a tournament and then breaking the plumbing when he flushed them down a toilet to hide the evidence.

A judge on Thursday sentenced Christian Lusardi to five years in prison. Lusardi also must pay \$463,540 in restitution to the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa for the revenue it lost when it canceled the 2014 tournament in Atlantic City and \$9,455 to Harrah's Casino Hotel for damaging its plumbing. Lusardi, 43, of Fayetteville,

North Carolina, pleaded guilty to trademark counterfeiting and criminal mischief.

Authorities said Lusardi suspected his scheme had been discovered so he flushed the fake chips down the toilet in his room at Harrah's Resort Atlantic City, where he had been staying. But the chips clogged the pipes, and guests on the floor below complained that water was dripping into their rooms.

Maintenance was called, and the chips were found. An additional 22 tournament chips worth \$5,000 were found in a clogged

toilet in the Borgata the next day. A total of \$3.6 million worth of tournament chips were recovered, though they had no actual cash value.

The tournament was supposed to run for three weeks but was terminated after three days when the counterfeit poker chips were found. Investigators determined \$800,000 in fake chips had been put into play during the first two days of the tournament.

There were 27 people remaining in the Borgata Winter Open Big Stack, No Limit Hold 'Em event when play was suspended. The

\$1.5 million in remaining prize money was put on hold before the state Division of Gaming Enforcement ordered the money be distributed and entry fees refunded.

Lusardi had won \$6,814 in the tournament.

Investigators said he purchased the chips online from a Chinese manufacturer and then put a counterfeit Borgata logo on them. In response to the scam, the Borgata began using more intricate chips with more colors and an authentication element that can be checked under ultraviolet light. □



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The road to Kitten Bowl III paved with unspeakable cuteness

LEANNE ITALIE
 Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — How do you wrangle a bunch of furry paw-thletes on a kitten-scale football field? With a tiny little ball on a string dangling from a great big TV camera.

The Hallmark Channel, with help from host Beth Stern and Feline Football League Commissioner Boomer Esiason, taped Kitten Bowl III on Wednesday, ahead of broadcast on Su-purr Bowl Sunday, otherwise known as Feb. 7.

And the best part: The nearly 100 feisty, four-legged players, all rescues, will find homes well before game day thanks to North Shore Animal League America.

These goal posts were scratch-worthy, and invited guests got to lob cat toys onto the field to keep the action moving. No Gatorade on the sidelines, just a couple of well-frequented water bowls and litter boxes — and plenty of human spotters to redirect escapees trying to jump off the elevated set.

Stern, an animal welfare advocate, North Shore Animal League spokeswoman and wife of Howard Stern, is a cat mama herself with Howard's enthusiastic assistance. He gets to name new cat pets (they've got six) and the many rescues the two foster, including a handful of adorable furballs his wife planned to



Kittens play on a mini football field during the taping of "Kitten Bowl III," on Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015, in New York. The program will be broadcast on The Hallmark Channel on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 7, 2016.

(AP Photo/Leanne Italie)

bring home from Wednesday's taping.

"He helps me socialize the kittens. He plays with them. They crawl in his hair," Stern said. "I mean,

what's a better cat toy than Howard's hair?"

Esiason, on the other hand, an NFL most valuable player and four-time Pro Bowl quarterback, is a dog per-

son in real life. He's got two, but his heart is gold for the felines. This is his second Kitten Bowl, with a twist this year: He fielded a team of his own — Boomer's Bobcats — in addition to performing his duties as commissioner.

"I sat with my team and I said, 'Look guys, I need you to go out there, play with cuteness and cuddliness. I want you to be as furry as you possibly can. I want to hear a lot of meows. I want to see a lot of touchdowns. I want to see a lot of climbing on the uprights,'" Esiason said.

So what are the Vegas odds on the Bobcats?

"Right now we're a 2-to-1 favorite," Esiason joked, denying any influence peddling. "I'm above all of that." □

Idaho agency finds historic lost footage of parachuting beavers

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — More than half a century after a group of beavers parachuted into the Idaho backcountry, officials have uncovered video of the quirky wildlife management moment.

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game was struggling with an overpopulation of beavers in some regions in the 1940s when wildlife managers settled on a novel idea. They captured beavers and other furry rodents, packed them into special travel boxes, attached parachutes and dropped them from a plane into the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness. The footage made around 1950 and dubbed "Fur for the Future" showed the infamous beaver drops, but it had long been lost, Boise State Public Radio reported Thursday (<http://bit.ly/1M8QE9U>).

Animal lovers, take heart — it appears all the beavers made it through their flying

adventures unharmed.

Fish and Game historian Sharon Clark recently uncovered the fragile film, which had been mislabeled and stored in the wrong file. It has been digitized and released on YouTube by the department and the Idaho Historical Society.

Trapping and transplanting beavers still happens today — but in less dramatic fashion.

"We haven't done airplane drops for 50-plus years, but it apparently worked pretty well back then to re-establish them in remote places," said Steve Nadeau, Fish and Game's statewide fur bearer manager.

The agency now moves beavers to the Owyhee desert, in the state's southwest corner, to help restore vegetation stripped away by years of watershed use. Nadeau says the goal is for beavers to make ponds in the region, which can hold water year-round. □

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Israeli man shot dead after being mistaken for attacker

**TIA GOLDENBERG
Associated Press**

JERUSALEM (AP) — A Jewish Israeli man was shot and killed in a scuffle with Israeli soldiers who suspected he was a Palestinian attacker, police said Thursday, in a reflection of the jittery mood that has gripped Israelis amid a spate of near-daily stabbings. The shooting came as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was in Germany for talks with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry on how to restore calm. Kerry expressed a "cautious measure of optimism" following the four-hour meeting about proposals that could help defuse tensions. Kerry

is set to meet with the Palestinians this weekend. Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said the shooting of the Israeli man in Jerusalem late Wednesday occurred after soldiers patrolling the area asked him to show ID as he got off a bus. The man refused, scuffled with the soldiers and then attempted to seize one of their weapons. A private security guard nearby shot the man, and one soldier also opened fire, police said. The man later died of his wounds. Police said the soldiers had grown suspicious when the man, speaking in Hebrew, asked to see their IDs and proclaimed, "I am ISIS," re-



Israeli border police check Palestinian's identification cards at a checkpoint as they exit the Arab neighborhood of Issawiyeh in Jerusalem, Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015. Israel has beefed up security across the country, sending hundreds of soldiers to back up thousands of police officers. Police have erected concrete barriers and checkpoints at the entrance to Arab areas of east Jerusalem, where many of the attackers are from.

(AP Photo/Oded Balilty)

ferring to the Islamic State militant group. "The soldiers had high sus-

picious that he was a terrorist," Rosenfeld said. Police later identified the man as

a 28-year-old Jewish resident of Jerusalem, without providing further details. □

Syria:

US-led forces strike IS-controlled oil field

**VIVIAN SALAMA
Associated Press**

BAGHDAD (AP) — U.S.-led coalition forces in Iraq and Syria carried out a large-scale attack on Syria's Omar oil field as part of its mission to target the Islamic State group's ability to generate money, a coalition spokesman said Thursday. Operations officer Maj. Michael Filanowski told journalists in Baghdad that airstrikes late Wednesday struck IS-controlled oil refineries, command and control centers and transportation nodes in the Omar oil field near the town of Deir el-Zour. Coalition spokesman Col. Steven Warren said the attack hit 26 targets, making it one of the largest set of strikes since launching the air campaign last year. The refinery generates between \$1.7 and \$5.1 mil-

lion per month for the Islamic State group. "It was very specific targets that would result in long-term incapacitation of their ability to sell oil, to get it out of the ground and transport it," Filanowski said. The Islamic State group seized a number of oil refineries and other infrastructure in Iraq and Syria as it sought to generate revenue to build a self-sufficient state. The group currently holds territory in just under a third of Iraq and Syria, and coalition forces continue to launch airstrikes in support of allied ground forces in both countries. Coalition officials said that Iraqi security forces, backed by the paramilitary Popular Mobilization Forces and Iraqi federal police, continue to work to recapture and clear the western city of Ramadi and the city of

Beiji, home to Iraq's largest oil refinery. They were being supported by airstrikes. Iraqi forces said Tuesday that they had driven Islamic State militants out of Beiji and were in full control of the town. But coalition officials said Thursday that the mission has not been completed. "Beiji city is contested," Filanowski said. "They control the road but then the next phase of the operation will be to clear the actual city." Filanowski added that much of the area is littered with booby traps, and the militants have staged a number of counterattacks on advancing Iraqi forces as they look to control the town. He said that between 400 and 600 IS fighters are believed to have been fighting in Beiji — far less than the estimated 600 to 1,000 fighters in battling in Ramadi. □

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China's Xi says goodbye to queen, holds talks with Cameron



Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron, right, drinks beer with Chinese President Xi Jinping, at a pub in Princess Risborough, near Chequers, England, Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015. The two leaders met for talks and dinner at the prime minister's official country residence Thursday, during a state visit hailed as a landmark by both China and Britain.

(AP Photo/Kirsty Wigglesworth, pool)

JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister David Cameron discussed the fight against war and terrorism — and had a drink in a pub — with Chinese President Xi Jinping on Thursday during a state visit hailed as a landmark by both nations. The two leaders met for talks and dinner at the prime minister's official country residence, Chequers.

Beforehand, Cameron took Xi to a traditional pub nearby for a pint of English ale and a taste of British fish and chips. In a joint statement before the meeting, they said stronger U.K.-China ties were of "global significance and strategic importance."

The Chinese president's visit has drawn protests in the streets and criticism in Parliament. But Cameron and Xi downplayed their

differences over issues such as human rights, promising a relationship of "mutual respect" that recognized "the importance each side attaches to its own political system, development path, core interests and major concerns."

Cameron's office said Thursday's talks would focus on international affairs and how China can help battle extremism.

Western governments are keenly interested in China's response to the war in Syria. China had joined Russia to block a series of Western resolutions at the United Nations against Syrian President Bashar Assad's government.

Russia has stepped up a military intervention in Syria that it says targets the Islamic State group but that Britain and others say seeks to prop up Assad.

Earlier, Xi and his wife said goodbye to Queen Elizabeth II after spending two

nights as the monarch's guest at Buckingham Palace. Xi will visit the north-west England city of Manchester on Friday to end his four-day trip.

Xi has been greeted with elaborate British pomp and ceremony on the state visit, the first by a Chinese leader to Britain in a decade.

The two countries signed more than 30 billion pounds (\$46 billion) in trade agree-

ments — including a contentious nuclear power deal — as Cameron said Britain sought to be China's "partner of choice" in the West.

There have also been protests by human rights activists and pro-Tibet groups, and opposition politicians have urged Cameron to press Xi on China's rights record.

The trip has dominated

state media in China, where the Communist Party newspaper Global Times said "the Sino-U.K. relationship will expect the harvest of the 'golden era.'"

It's a marked change in tone from Cameron's trip to China in December 2013, when the Global Times said Britain was an old country, "easily replaceable in China's European foreign policy." □

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Migrants trade punches, 1 stabbed as tensions boil over



A family walks towards buses at a camp at a border with Slovenia in Spielfeld, Austria, Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015. Thousands of people are trying to reach central and northern Europe via the Balkans but often have to wait for days in mud and rain at the Serbian, Croatian and Slovenian borders. (AP Photo/Petr David Josek)

GEORGE JAHN
Associated Press

VIENNA (AP) — Migrants traded punches and scuf-

fled with police at a Serbian border crossing and a man was stabbed in a similar clash on the Slovenian

border Thursday, as pent-up pressures on their trek toward hoped-for safe haven in the European Union

boiled over.

Slovenian police said the stabbing took place near Rigonci earlier in the day, and that the victim was given medical treatment. The unrest at Berkasovo village on the Serbian border subsided after several minutes. But the outbreak reflected the frustrations of the tens of thousands of people facing long waits and other hardships as they make their way north over the Balkans each day in search of better lives in prosperous EU countries. Further along that route, Austrian police moved to relieve pent-up pressure which they feared could lead to violence, removing barriers at an overcrowded collection point at a border crossing with Slovenia. A day earlier, thousands of migrants broke through police obstacles at the same collection center at the Spielfeld border point.

Many of the migrants spilled out of the facility Thursday but then gathered nearby, following police instructions. But many others walked away from the border.

The collection area just inside the Austrian border was again full by afternoon. Police and soldiers struggled to maintain order as the crowd surged every time a group was separated for transport by bus to shelters and processing. Trampled, pushed or otherwise hurt, several people were seen receiving medical attention, including one boy, about 8 years old, whose leg was being bandaged and a younger boy being given oxygen. At least two adults were taken away on stretchers.

A police officer with a loudspeaker urged people to sit and wait for buses, warning "if you make trouble, we make trouble." □

Teacher, student killed in stabbing attack on Swedish school

JAN M. OLSEN
Associated Press

A masked man wielding what looked like a sword stabbed four people Thursday at a school in southern Sweden, killing a teacher and a student before being shot dead by police, authorities said. One student thought he was playing a Halloween prank. Students fled from Kronan school in Trollhattan, near Goteborg, Sweden's second-largest city, after the morning attack in a public cafe in the school's lobby, police said. The school has 400 students ranging from pre-school to high school. Trollhattan, located 350 kilometers (220 miles) southwest of Stockholm, is a former industrial city of 56,000 people with a large immigrant community.

Police arrived at the school to find one male teacher already dead and three other people seriously wounded — two boys aged 11 and 15 and another male teacher, police spokesman Thomas Fuxborg told The Associated Press. Police fired two shots, one of which hit the attacker, he said. One student and the attacker died later at the hospital, authorities said. The attacker, a 21-year-old from Trollhattan, knocked on the doors to two classrooms and stabbed those who opened them, police spokesman Thord Haraldsson told reporters at a press conference. Police searched the attacker's home and found "interesting" things for their investigation, he added, without elaborating. Laith Alazze, a

14 year-old student at Kronan, said at first he thought the attacker — who was clad in black and wearing a helmet that masked his eyes — had something to do with Halloween. "One of my friends walked over to him to challenge him, but when we saw he stabbed him (the teacher), we ran away," Alazze told Sweden's TV4. Dagens Nyheter, one of Sweden's largest newspapers, posted a photo of a helmeted man with a dark mask, a dark outfit and a sword in his hand, claiming it was the attacker. The paper said the killer posed with two people before he started his rampage. The attacker had a gunshot wound to his lower chest and died later Thursday at the hospital, officials said. Police spokeswoman

Maria Randsalu said the second victim was a student, but did not say which one. The three wounded, all in serious condition, underwent surgery at the Norra Alvsborgs Lanssjukhus hospital. Dr. Lars Spetz told reporters the teacher had been stabbed in the abdomen while the two students were stabbed in the abdomen, liver and chest. "They hover between life and death," Spetz said. Swedish media said the school held a meeting Thursday morning to discuss teachers' fears that they could not control access to the school. Students must go through the public cafe to reach the school's cafeteria and other parts of the building. A sober-looking Swedish Prime Minister Stefan

Lofven called the deadly stabbing attack "a tragedy that hits the entire country." He spoke outside the school in Trollhattan after viewing the lobby where the attack began. Lofven declined to comment on Swedish press reports that the attacker had right-wing sympathies, saying police were still trying to establish a profile of him. "My thoughts go out to the victims and their families, the students and staff, and the whole community," Lofven said earlier. "No words can describe what they are going through right now." King Carl XVI Gustaf said Sweden was "in shock" following the attack and that the royal family received the news "with great dismay and sadness." □




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Because We Care, We Share:

Aruba Aloe Invites You to Join in the Fight Against Breast Cancer!



ORANJESTAD - This October, as part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Aruba Aloe will launch its annual "Because We Care, We Share" campaign to support Aruba's Mary Joan Foundation and promote breast cancer awareness. With every purchase of \$75, Aruba Aloe will donate \$4.50 to the Mary Joan Foundation. The purchaser will receive a free special "125-year-Anniversary-edition Ultra-Intensive Cream" as a gift (value of \$18) for their contribution, as well as a pink breast cancer

awareness ribbon to show their support and spread awareness within the local community.

Breast cancer is by far the most common cancer in women worldwide. One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. Since 2008, worldwide breast cancer incidence has increased by more than 20 percent while mortality has increased by 14 percent. One-third of cancer deaths could be decreased if detected and treated early.

Breast Cancer Awareness

Month is a chance to raise awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer, as well as raise funds for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cure. Aruba Aloe will support this cause by contributing to Aruba's local breast cancer organization, the Mary Joan Foundation, which gives support to those suffering from breast cancer, breast cancer survivors, and their families and friends, and also helps spread awareness about breast cancer,

particularly the importance of early detection.

"Because We Care, We Share" is a great opportunity for Aruba Aloe's clients to team up with Aruba Aloe to spread breast cancer awareness while also enjoying a special "125-year-Anniversary-edition" gift from Aruba Aloe. Aruba Aloe invites the community to visit its stores this October to participate in this special campaign. It also encourages the local community to visit and share the Mary Joan Foundation's Facebook page to help in-

crease awareness.

Aruba Aloe is the island's sole producer of beauty and healthcare products based on 100% pure Aloe vera gel from Aruba. For the past 125 years, the company has sourced its Aloe gel from its own Aloe plantation in Hato, Aruba. Today, locals, island guests, and the international community can enjoy several unique collections of hair and skincare products, including the Aruba Aloe classic collection, Island Remedy, and Desert Bloom. □

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In pageant-crazy Venezuela, men compete for Miss Gay

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— There's a beauty contest for almost everyone in pageant-obsessed Venezuela. In the popular Miss Gay Venezuela competition, men don elaborate wigs and layers of makeup to show off their skills in what they call "the art of transformation."

At the ninth annual event on Sunday, the frenzy of backstage activity was intense, with young men pinning wigs into place, adjusting fake breasts and creating hourglass figures by wrapping their waists multiple times with thick tape. Some spent up to five hours getting ready.

After their painstaking preparation, contestants wearing 1950s-style cat eye makeup, pink lips and blonde pin curls performed song and dance numbers and strutted their stuff in sequined dresses created by some of Venezuela's top designers. Beauty pageants have reached the level of national sport in Venezuela, which claims to have produced more international contest winners than



Argenis Gonzalez wears the Miss Gay Venezuela crown after winning the beauty pageant in Caracas, Venezuela. When not dressed as a woman, Gonzalez goes by the first name Manuel.

(AP Photo/Ariana Cubillos)

any other country. Young women from poor neighborhoods pay huge sums to attend beauty schools with hopes of making it to the international pageant circuit. Young men compete in events that reward handsome faces and chiseled muscles.

The Miss Gay contest is less conventional, but still cleaves to some beauty contest norms, including evening wear and swimsuit competitions. All contestants have to be younger than 37 and stand at least 1.7 meters (5'6") tall.

The winner of Sunday's

event was 24-year-old social media coordinator Manuel Gonzalez, who competed as Argenis Gonzalez. In classic beauty queen style, he burst into tears after it was announced he had won as the representative of Carabobo state. □

British couple is killed at home on island of Tobago

**JABARI FRASER
DAVID McFADDEN**

**Associated Press
PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad**

(AP) — Police said they are currently investigating the slaying of a British man and his wife who were found hacked to death in their home on Tobago, a tiny Caribbean island where there have been other unsolved attacks on expatriates and tourists by machete-wielding assailants. Trinidad and Tobago police have identified the slain couple as Richard and Grace Wheeler. The butchered body of the British lawyer was found in his Cambee home, while his wife was found in their yard with her throat slit. The bodies were apparently first discovered by their gardener. There have been no arrests in the apparent home invasion. Acting Senior Police Superintendent Joanne Archie said Wednesday that investigators are "following every possible lead" in Tobago, the smaller and less developed of the two islands that make up the twin-island Caribbean nation off the coast of Venezuela.

It's the latest unsolved attack by a machete-wielding assailant in tourist-dependent Tobago. A German couple in their 70s were found fatally hacked on a beach last year near their vacation home on Tobago's southern coast.

That fatal attack was a short distance away from a villa where a British couple were seriously injured in a 2009 home invasion by a man wielding a machete. The year before, a Swedish couple was butchered in their Tobago villa in a similar home invasion. □

Gay couples celebrate civil unions for first time in Chile

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)

— Dozens of same-sex couples in Chile began celebrating civil unions on Thursday, taking advantage of a new law that gay advocates say is a clear sign of change in a country long regarded as one of Latin America's most socially conservative.

The civil union law was debated in Congress for over a decade until it was passed and signed into law by the president in April. As it went into effect, couples began arriving at civil registry offices early to officially validate their unions.

Some wore matching traditional Chilean cowboy garb, others elegant tuxedos and dresses.

"It was beautiful. It was such a nice ceremony. It was all very emotional.

Our families were here, everyone was shedding tears," Virginia Gomez told reporters after she registered her union with her partner, Roxana Ortiz.

"History changes today," Ortiz said, showing the blue passport-like document that validates their union. The couple had married in Spain but their union was not recognized in Chile.

"Now we can make decisions together like a couple. We're thrilled."

Civil union gives same-sex and unmarried couples many of the rights granted to married couples. Partners can inherit each other's property, join one another's health plans and receive pension benefits. They have been recognized in several South American countries, though only Argentina and Uruguay allow formal gay marriage. Gay advocates in Chile are celebrating the right to same-sex civil unions as a step toward full rights.

"The civil union doesn't end our struggle. We're demanding same-sex marriage.

We're going to request for the measures stuck in congress to be revived," said Rolando Jimenez, president of the Gay Liberation and Integration Movement.

Chile decriminalized gay sex in 1999 and it was one of the last countries in the world to legalize divorce, in 2004.

The brutal killing of a gay man in 2012 set off a national debate that prompted Congress to pass a hate crimes law. □



Aruba Ostrich Farm Welcomes 16 Adorable New Arrivals!



MATIVIDIRI - When you think of Aruba, you probably think sea, sun and beach. But Aruba has more to offer than that, there're different sort of activities you can do. A must see when you are at Aruba, is the Aruba Ostrich Farm, where 16 gorgeous new ostrich chicks have just arrived straight from Belgium! The new chicks arrived on Aruba on October 20th, they are only 6-to-8 days old, and they are all in perfect health and adapting well to their new home! These 16 chicks will make for a nice addition to the 25 other Ostriches already enjoying life at the Aruba Ostrich Farm. The new chicks are 'new blood' to the farm, and will be encouraged to mate with those already at the farm to avoid inbreeding.

Although Africa is the native land of the ostrich, this intriguing bird finds a perfect home in Aruba's rug-



ged landscape. The Aruba Ostrich Farm welcomes you to come and meet its 80-count flock of the largest living species in the world. Visitors are encouraged to partake in a guided tour of the farm, inhabited by both ostriches and their flightless Australian relatives, emus. The tour provides the opportunity to learn about the natural behavior and survival instincts of these amazing creatures through detailed information as well as personal en-



counters with the birds. A knowledgeable guide will introduce the adult emus and ostriches. You will learn about the ostrich's amazing speed as well as other defense mechanisms it uses against predators. Mating, rearing, and feeding habits will both surprise and amuse you. You will even have the opportunity to hand-feed the not-so-shy creatures. Just watch out! Ostriches are ALWAYS hungry, and if you have food in your hands, you may quickly find yourself surrounded by a herd of curious critters.

Our guides are well-equipped to answer your questions about ostriches and emus throughout the tour. We hope you take the opportunity to learn more about these fascinating creatures.

Before or after the tour, we welcome guests to peruse our African Art Shop, chock-full of authentic goods from South Africa. The Aruba Ostrich Farm is dedicated to providing a memorable and unique experience for all of our guests. It's one of the things you have to do when you are at Aruba.

For more information, please see your resort concierge or activities desk, or call direct at 585-9630, or visit: www.arubaostrich-farm.com. □



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Loyal Visitors Honored by the Aruba Tourism Authority

EAGLE BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba at Costa Linda Beach Resort as Distinguished Visitors and Goodwill Ambassadors.

The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as tokens of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 and 20-to-34 consecutive years.

The honorees were Mr. Bruce and Mrs. Veronica Friedin, Joe Reese, Wayne Oas, James Barnett, and Carrie Harrow.

All of the honorees are loyal members of Costa Linda and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the weather, the beaches, the restaurants, the Casinos, and



just about everything else! They say Aruba feels like a second home where the people are like family to

them, and Costa Linda is truly their 'home-away-from-home.' The certificates were pre-

sented by Ms. Marouska Heyliger representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Mrs. Gloria Jan-

ga, Mrs. Miriam Rodriguez, and other family and friends from Costa Linda. □



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Gabriel and Miriam Honored at the Marriott Ocean Club



PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple whom are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba as Distinguished Visitors at the Marriott Ocean Club. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of

Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Gabriel and Mrs. Miriam Szusterman of Buenos Aires, Argentina. Gabriel and Miriam are loyal members of the Marriott Ocean Club, and they love Aruba for the

weather, the beaches, the hospitality and the restaurants; but most of all they love the Aruban people. The certificate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Ms. Stephanie Paul representing the Marriott Ocean Club. □

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PALM BEACH - Hadicurari Restaurant is one of Aruba's 'your feet in the sand' restaurants. Located between the Marriott's Surf Club and the Holiday Inn Resort, it overlooks the pier where the fishermen unload their catch and

where the brightly colored sails of the windsurfers dot the horizon. Already famous for its fresh fish (logical, as the fishermen bring it in right from the ocean), it now offers a fabulous, delicious Sunday Brunch. This is no ordinary Brunch,

we can tell you. It is made up of the best of the best and the price is a steal. Drink as many Mimosas or orange juice as you like and move your hips a bit to the mellow sounds of DJ Mista's lounge music. We'll just tease you a bit with a few fantastic items of Hadicurari's Brunch Menu: there are Breakfast items, all-you-can-eat tapas, appetizers like Cevi-

che, Asian Salad, a Calamari basket, Prosciutto ham with watermelon, a Caribbean fish consommé and a Mahi Mahi salad precede the Main Course options, like grilled tenderloin, juicy chicken breast, a pan-seared Grouper, the Catch of the Day and garlic shrimp. Don't forget to keep some space for dessert: cheese cake, apple pie, chocolate cake or ice

cream. The festive Sunday Brunch at Hadicurari is an all-you-can-eat feast, starting at 11am and going on until 3pm. Hadicurari is ready to surprise you with its surprisingly good deal, its new, fantastic Sunday Brunch. For more information and reservations, call 588-2288, or visit www.hadicurari.com. Enjoy! □





In this Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015, photo, Gus Kenworthy, a freestyle skier who won a silver medal in Sochi, poses in his home in Denver.

Associated Press

Freestyle skier comes out, says Sochi wasn't right time

EDDIE PELLIS
PAT GRAHAM
AP Sports Writers

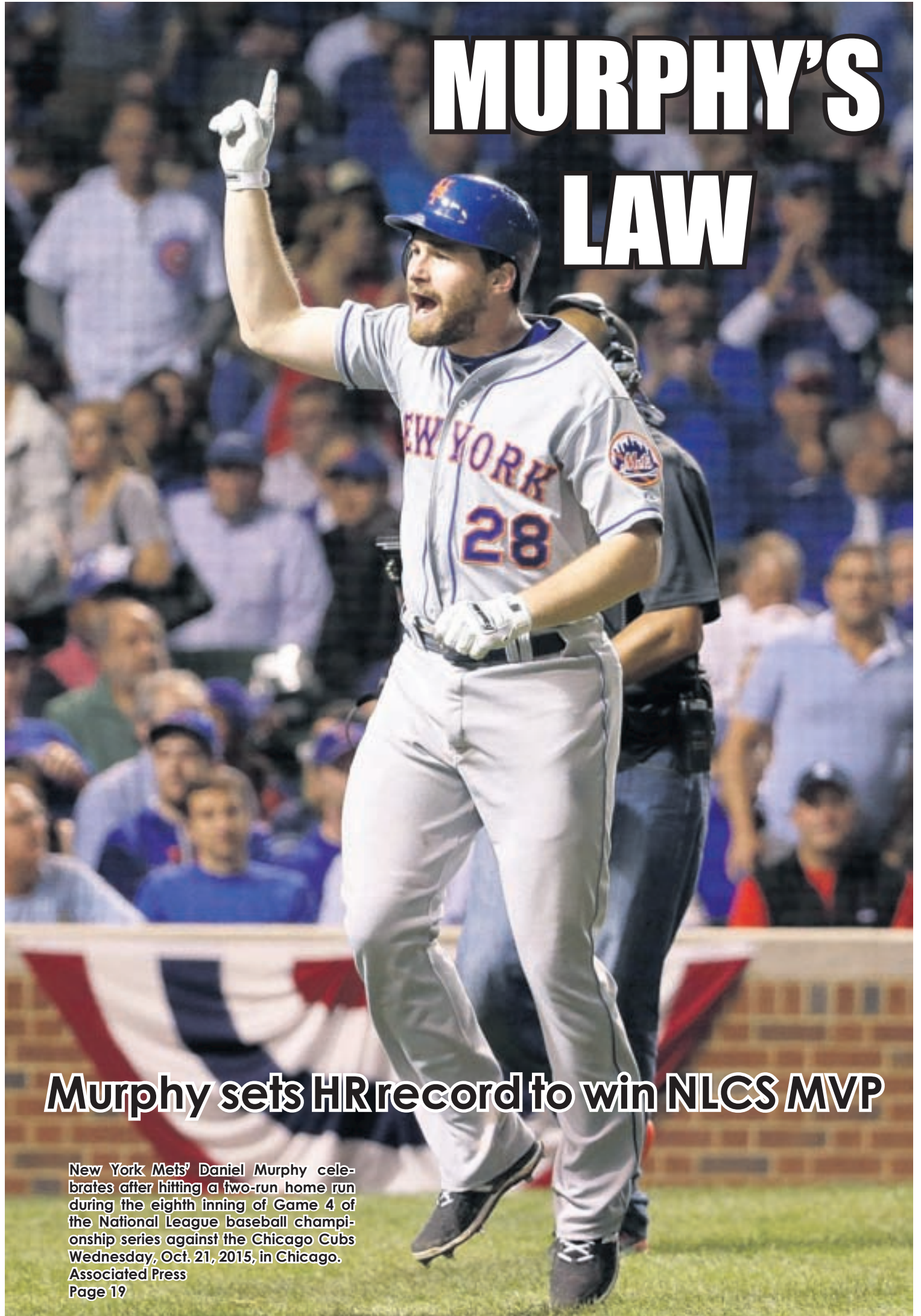
DENVER (AP) — When Gus Kenworthy would let his mind wander into how his perfect Olympics might play out, he pictured a certain scene.

He'd land his best tricks on his final run, win a medal and then — the capper — jump into the stands, ski boots and all, to share a big hug and kiss with the man who meant so much to him.

"That would've been an amazing way to come out," said Kenworthy, the freestyle skier who won the silver medal in Sochi.

But the timing, to say nothing of the country, wasn't quite right to tell the world he was gay. And so Kenworthy left Russia in February 2014 known best as the compassionate daredevil who adopted several stray dogs he came across in the mountains — and as the man who was part of an historic U.S. sweep of the first Olympic ski slope-style contest.

Continued on page 18



MURPHY'S LAW

Murphy sets HR record to win NLCS MVP

New York Mets' Daniel Murphy celebrates after hitting a two-run home run during the eighth inning of Game 4 of the National League baseball championship series against the Chicago Cubs Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015, in Chicago.
Associated Press
Page 19

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Skier comes out

Continued from page 17

Because he wasn't ready, the journey to Sochi was far less perfect than it could've been for the 24-year-old from Telluride, Colorado, who on Thursday, in interviews with The Associated Press and ESPN The Magazine, revealed to the public that he is gay.

He joined other high-profile athletes, including football player Michael Sam, recently retired NBA player Jason Collins and Los Angeles Galaxy soccer player Robbie Rogers, to come out.

"I felt like I was already being so courageous with my body and my actions and the things I was doing in order to try to win and be the best," Kenworthy said at his home in Denver. "Then, I was being such a coward in this other way, where I wouldn't let anyone know. So they were battling each other. I'm excited where those two things can go hand in hand."

As young as age 5, Kenworthy felt he was different. Growing up in a moun-

tain town with about 2,000 residents and only 50 kids in the school gives a boy who knows he's gay few places to hide. He threw himself into skiing to show he was every bit as tough and brave as anyone else. But there was no denying he felt conflicted. He spoke of severe depression, thoughts of suicide, the internal battle of how to "live authentically and not feel like I need to hide anymore."

Heading into the biggest ski contest of his life, he wasn't all the way there. He hadn't told his parents, or his brothers. And though he had let himself get caught up in the idea of a celebratory kiss with his boyfriend at the bottom of the hill, and the many messages it would send, he knew it couldn't happen.

"The idea of kissing my boyfriend at the bottom of my run would've been, in addition to me coming out, a silent f--- you to the anti-gay legislature in place in Russia," he said.

Instead, his post-victory tour involved him being portrayed as the pet-loving heartthrob who brought Olympic glory to his home country. Typical of winning athletes who go on their post-Olympic interview tours, he faced questions about much more than just skiing.

Who is your celebrity crush? Miley Cyrus, Kenworthy lied.

How do you feel about saving all those dogs? He couldn't tell the real sto-



In this Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015, photo, Gus Kenworthy, a freestyle skier who won a silver medal in Sochi, poses in his home in Denver.

Associated Press

ry and so he lied again: Couldn't be happier.

Truth was, he was nothing more than a casual fan of Cyrus, and the person who did most of the hard work with the dogs — including staying behind in Russia for more than a month to get them back to the United States — was his boyfriend at the time.

"He got zero credit and I was getting asked about it on every show and in every interview," Kenworthy said. Much as the label "Dog Guy" stuck with him long after Sochi, Kenworthy is aware he could be cast, too simply, as the "Gay Skier."

But in the 20 months since his trip to Russia, where debate raged over gay rights

and the government's law against gay "propaganda," Kenworthy has become more assured about who he is, both on and off the slopes. He has won a title on the Dew Tour, more World Cup podiums and had a legitimate chance at the overall championship last season until a leg and knee injury ended things early.

Relegated to the gym for months of rehab, he finally had the time to crystalize his feelings about whether he was ready to tell the world who he really is.

He said he likes the idea of coming out while he's at the top of his game, while people in his sport — especially kids — are paying attention.

"We admire Gus for having the strength to tell the world who he is as a person, and paving the way for others to do the same," said Tiger Shaw, the CEO of U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association.

While the locker-room atmosphere of football or basketball doesn't exist in freestyle skiing, it is still a sport built on a certain brand of devil-may-care machismo. How will a gay skier be received among this cadre of daredevils?

For a man who makes a living catapulting off of 70-foot-high ramps, this is a very different sort of leap.

"I don't know what the future has in store," Kenworthy said, "but I'm kind of looking forward to it." □



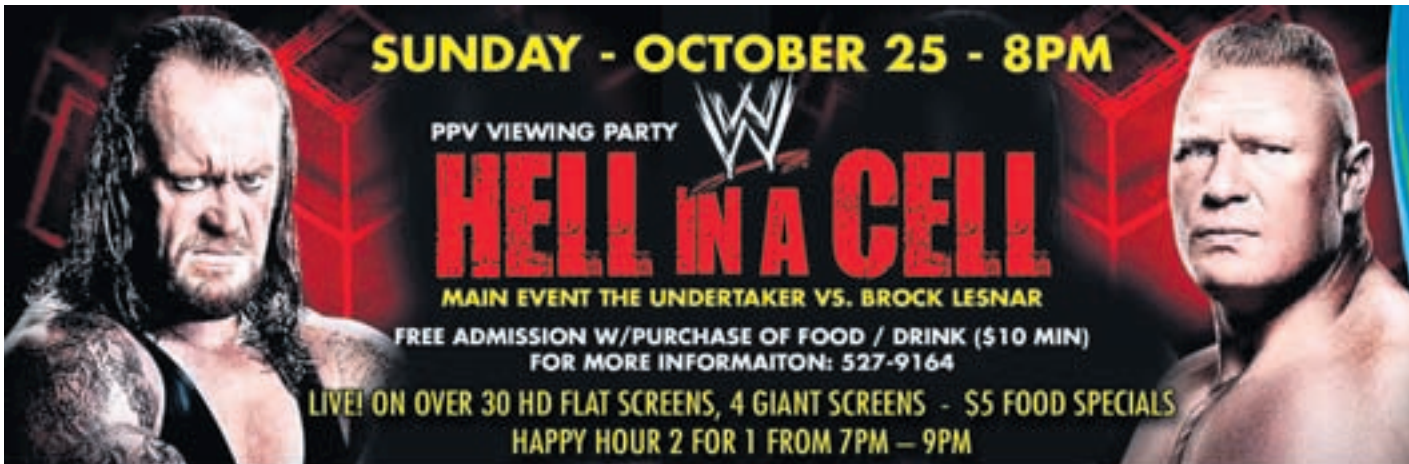
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Mets soar into stratosphere on Daniel Murphy's unearthly bat

BY RONALD BLUM
AP BASEBALL WRITER

NEW YORK (AP) - In the 1960s, the idea of the Mets winning a World Series was as farfetched as man walking on the moon. Just 88 days after Neil Armstrong took his giant leap, the Amazin's were champions. Now Tyler Clippard is convinced an extraterrestrial has led the Mets back to the Fall Classic.

"He's not human. He's not on this planet right now," Clippard said about Daniel Murphy. "Another life form jumped into his body."

Heading into a World Series matchup that opens in Kansas City or Toronto on Tuesday night, it seems as if it is in the stars whenever the Mets are successful.

In 1969, there were hard-to-fathom catches by Tommy Agee and Ron Swoboda in the Series against Baltimore. Cleon Jones reached first base on a hit batsman call during a Game 5 rally when manager Gil Hodges showed a ball with shoe polish to an umpire.

In 1986, there was Mookie Wilson's grounder that went through Bill Buckner's legs at first base to cap a three-run, 10th-inning rally in Game 6 against Boston after the Mets were twice down to their season's final strike.

Now there's Murphy, who has seven home runs in nine playoff games, setting a major league record by going deep in each of his last six. His first-inning home run in Game 2 against the Cubs was on a pitch a Liliputian 1.064 feet above the ground, according to MLB's Pitch f/x system. Only one home run in the en-



The New York Mets celebrate after Game 4 of the National League baseball championship series against the Chicago Cubs Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015, in Chicago. The Mets won 8-3 to advance to the World Series.

tire major leagues this year came on a ball hit lower.

"This is special. This is special. I can't stop saying it," captain David Wright exclaimed. "The '69 Mets, the '86 Mets, the 2000 Mets - we are amongst the best Mets teams to ever play, and I couldn't be more proud." New York's players arrived back at Citi Field at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, two motorcycle police in front and two more behind the team's two buses. Standing about 150 feet from the auto chop shops across the street from right field, about 50 fans greeted the team in the parking lot.

Long the second team in town, the Mets won their fifth pennant to the Yankees' 40. They were nicknamed the Amazin' Mets by Casey Stengel, their first manager, and became

the upstarts, first at the Polo Grounds for their first two seasons, then at windy Shea Stadium from 1964-2008. Jane Jarvis played the organ, Ralph Kiner, Bob Murphy and Lindsey Nelson entertained fans in the broadcast booth, the Rheingold jingle played at the ballpark and Karl Ehrhardt lauded players with homemade signs from 1964-81. "THERE ARE NO WORDS" was his message after Jones caught the final out against the Orioles.

The Tom Seaver-Jerry Koosman-Gary Gentry Miracle Mets of 1969 morphed into Tug McGraw's Ya Gotta Believe Mets of 1973, who lost a seven-game World Series against Oakland. After a lean decade, the Doc, Straw, Keith and The Kid team won a seven-game classic against the

Red Sox in 1986, and a Mike Piazza-led team lost a five-game Subway Series to the Yankees in 2000.

Then, after another trough that included multimillions in losses incurred by owners in the Bernard Madoff Ponzi scheme, they are back in the Series led by a brash young pitching staff that includes the Dark Knight (Matt Harvey), Thor (Noah Syndergaard), the deGrominator (Jacob deGrom) and Steven Matz, a group whose 147 regular-season career starts easily would be the fewest for a Series foursome, according to STATS. If the Mets win the Series, a shampoo endorsement deal for deGrom and Syndergaard seems inevitable. New York already promotes deGrom with a HairWeGo hashtag.

Add in Wilmer Flores' crying

on the field in July when he thought he'd been traded to Milwaukee, Bartolo Colon's entertaining at-bats and behind-the-backflip toss and Yoenis Cespedes' stimulating speed and sock, and the Mets transformed from routine to riveting. "It was a long time coming," said Wright, who signed with the Mets as an 18-year-old in 2001, made his big league debut three years later and was appointed captain in 2013. "We've been through some bad times. We've been through Septembers where you're just playing out the schedule, and that's no fun. To be able to completely reverse that 180 and now celebrate and get the chance to go the World Series, I wish I could bottle it up."

Terry Collins had not led a major league team since 1999 when was hired before the 2011 season. Now 66, the oldest manager in the major leagues, he had skippered 1,688 regular-season games before advancing to the Series for the first time.

A baseball lifer, he talked about his mother writing a sick note to school for him in the fifth grade so he could watch the 1960 World Series between Pittsburgh and the Yankees. And Wednesday night's pennant win came on what would have been his parents' 73rd wedding anniversary.

Kismet.

"I'm sitting there tonight thinking, holy crap, now you're in it after all these years," Collins said. "It was worth the wait. It was worth all the work." □

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Dodgers and Mattingly part ways in mutual agreement

BY BETH HARRIS
AP SPORTS WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP) -- Don Mattingly and the Los Angeles Dodgers stuck to their scripts Thursday, insisting they agreed to a mutual parting of the ways while never revealing the exact reason he won't return as manager.

Like a publicist announcing the demise of a Hollywood marriage, the parties insisted the split was amicable. Mattingly even suggested he "will be friends like forever" with his former bosses.

"I don't really want to get into details of our conversations. They were good conversations, they were open and they were honest," Mattingly said by phone from his offseason home in Evansville, Indiana. "It just became evident that this was the best thing for both parties."

At Dodger Stadium, president of baseball operations Andrew Friedman and general manager Farhan Zaidi parroted the same vacuous message.

"It was kind of organic," Friedman said. "It just kind of crystalized that is something that potentially made a lot of sense."

Before they came to that conclusion, the parties discussed extending Mattingly's contract beyond next year, its final season.

"When we started on Friday we expected him to be our manager in 2016," Friedman said. "I think that was his thought process, also."

But something clearly changed as the discussions wore on. Exactly what



In this Monday, Oct. 12, 2015, file photo, Los Angeles Dodgers manager Don Mattingly speaks during a news conference before Game 3 of baseball's National League Division Series against the New York Mets in New York.

it was neither side would specify.

"It came back to this was the right time and right thing," Mattingly said. "Andrew, Farhan and Josh (Byrnes) are great guys and they're going to do great things. The organization is in great shape."

Mattingly said he felt wanted, his players backed him, and Friedman and Zaidi expressed their respect and admiration for him, making it all the more puzzling why he's walking away from a storied organization that boasts baseball's highest payroll.

Neither side shed any light to help the franchise's longtime fans understand the move.

"If there is a reason that this happened we would share it," Friedman said. "It's not

so black-and-white here. There's a huge middle, and it's gray there. We're not hiding anything. It really is how things played out."

Zaidi said a contract extension was discussed, but no official offer was made.

"I've had my own level of cynicism hearing about people mutually parting ways," he said. "We can sit up here with all level of sincerity and say that's how it came about."

Los Angeles was 446-363 in five years under Mattingly, finishing with a winning record in every season and claiming the last three NL West titles. But the Dodgers have not reached the World Series since winning the championship in 1988. The 54-year-old former Yankees star ranks sixth in wins among Dodgers manag-

ers.

Friedman said he expects to hire a manager by the start of baseball's winter meetings that run Dec. 7-10 in Nashville, Tennessee. He and Zaidi began discussing possible candidates Wednesday, including those with and without previous managerial experience. They declined to reveal names.

"We expect to have a younger team going forward," Zaidi said.

The contracts of Mattingly's coaches are expiring, and they have been told they are free to look for new jobs, Friedman said.

Friedman called the circumstances of Mattingly's departure "a little bit of an unusual situation."

After the Dodgers lost 3-2 to the New York Mets in a

decisive Game 5 of the NL Division Series, Mattingly met over the last week with Friedman, Zaidi and Josh Byrnes, senior vice president of baseball operations.

"I never appreciated hearing the way Game 5 developed was Don Mattingly's fault," Friedman said.

Los Angeles reached the postseason in three straight years for the first time but the Dodgers won just one series, beating Atlanta in the Division Series two years ago, while losing three.

Mattingly was a holdover from the previous front office regime, having been manager Joe Torre's hand-picked successor in 2010 after he coached under the Hall of Famer for seven seasons in New York and Los Angeles.

Mattingly worked this season under the new tandem of Friedman and Zaidi, who had greater hands-on management than what Mattingly was used to under former GM Ned Colletti. Between Zaidi's expertise in advanced analytics and Friedman's reputation for building a roster by crunching numbers, Mattingly had a plethora of data at his disposal this season.

He said he "loved" the increased information.

"Information is good, discussion is good, debating things back and forth is good," Mattingly said. "I just look it as collaboration and us just working together. I feel like Andrew, Farhan and Josh will be friends like forever. That relationship is not strained in any way." □

Gilmore: Bills happy replacing Doug Marrone with Rex Ryan

JOHN WAWROW

AP Sports Writer

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP)

— In retrospect, cornerback Stephon Gilmore believes Doug Marrone's decision to abruptly step down as the Bills head coach worked out for the best in Buffalo.

"He left, so I feel like we upgraded," Gilmore told The Associated Press, noting the Bills replaced Marrone by hiring Rex Ryan. "We're happy that it happened." Gilmore went further, questioning Marrone's loyalty for leaving after a 9-7 season — Buffalo's best finish in a decade — and with two years remaining on his contract.

"When coaches come in, they always say 'being loyal.' And he left unexpectedly," Gilmore said. "It was kind of a shock. I don't know what the reason was for, but we're happy we got Rex. He's a loyal coach."

Gilmore was one of a number of Bills players who last week discussed Marrone's departure before Buffalo (3-3) left for London to play Jacksonville (1-5) on Sunday. It's a game in which Marrone will be on the other sideline as the Jaguars' assistant head coach and offensive line coach.

Center Eric Wood said he doesn't hold anything personally against Marrone, but can understand why other Bills players would.

"I'd say there's going to be some hard feelings in this locker room toward him in the manner he left," Wood said. "I think a lot of people thought we had a good thing going and had a lot to build on. And it said a lot about what he thought about our situation moving forward that he left."

Marrone was not made

available to reporters in Jacksonville this week before the Jaguars left for England on Thursday.

He has previously said he had "two outstanding years in Buffalo," and praised the organization for being "outstanding." Marrone also called his decision to leave a difficult one, and something he doesn't want to look back upon. Marrone stepped down on Dec. 31 after a three-day, end-of-season opt-out clause in his contract kicked in once the Bills were sold in October by former owner Ralph Wilson's estate to Terry and Kim Pegula.

The decision caught many off guard, especially after the Bills took a step forward a year after a 6-10 finish. Marrone also announced he wasn't going anywhere — "You're stuck with me fortunately or unfortunately," he said — following a 26-24 loss at Oakland on Dec. 21.

Marrone received a multi-million-dollar buyout in leaving Buffalo. He interviewed for several head-coaching jobs before eventually taking a demotion on Gus Bradley's staff in Jacksonville.

In Buffalo, Marrone was the subject of criticism.

Safety Aaron Williams posted a comment on Twitter saying, "Lost all respect!" Other players took offense to Marrone informing them of his departure in a mass text message.

Terry Pegula said he was "shocked."

And without mentioning Marrone by name, Ryan took a veiled swipe during his inaugural news conference by saying Bills fans "deserve a loyal coach."

On Thursday, Ryan said he hasn't mentioned Marrone

to his players this week — "It's just another opponent," he said.

Unlike Ryan's brash, outspoken approach, Marrone was mercurial. Marrone occasionally provided terse, one-word answers following victories. He erupted with a profanity-laced tirade at defensive end Jerry Hughes on the final day of training camp last year. Two weeks before the start of last season, Marrone had a heated exchange along the sideline during practice with team president Russ Brandon.

In Jacksonville, Bradley credited Marrone for motivating his players.

The Jaguars gave Marrone two new starters — right tackle Jeremy Parnell and center Stefan Wisniewski — and the line has played somewhat better this season. They've been solid in pass protection, with Blake Bortles getting sacked 17 times in six games, but have struggled with run-blocking.

Jacksonville is the only NFL team without a touchdown rushing, and its running backs are averaging 3.2 yards a carry.

"Our guys are doing a decent job," Bradley said. "We just expect more."

Bills quarterback EJ Manuel, who was benched by Marrone a month into last season, said he had no hard feelings toward his former coach. By coincidence, Manuel will make his second consecutive start on Sunday in place of Tyrod Taylor, who's out with a sprained left knee.

"I think in this business, sometimes you have to do what's best for yourself," Manuel said last week. "That's what I can say about it." □



Buffalo Bills head coach Rex Ryan gives a press conference after an NFL training session at the Grove Hotel in Chandler's Cross, England, Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015. The Buffalo Bills play the Jacksonville Jaguars at

Associated Press



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MON-THURS 5:20 | 7:30 | 9:40
FRI 5:20 | 7:30 | 9:40 | 11:50
SAT 3:10 | 5:20 | 7:30 | 9:40 | 11:50
SUN & HOL 3:10 | 5:20 | 7:30 | 9:40



BRADLEY COOPER | SIENNA MILLER

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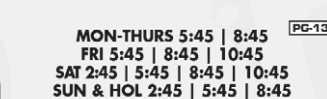
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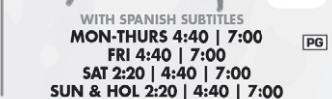
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JACK BLACK | DYLAN MINNETTE

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MON-THURS 4:40 | 7:00
FRI 4:40 | 7:00
SAT 2:20 | 4:40 | 7:00
SUN & HOL 2:20 | 4:40 | 7:00



LEVI MILLER | HUGH JACKMAN

PAN

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-FRI 4:30 | 7:00
SAT 2:05 | 4:30 | 7:00
SUN & HOL 2:05 | 4:30 | 7:00



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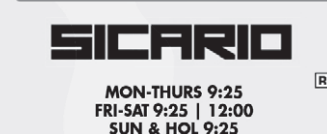
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EMILY BLUNT | BENICIO DEL TORO

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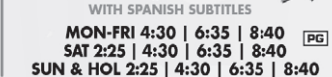
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SUN & HOL 9:25



ADAM SANDLER | ANDY SAMBERG

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 2

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-FRI 4:30 | 6:35 | 8:40
SAT 2:25 | 4:30 | 6:35 | 8:40
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United States' Julie Johnston, top right, challenges for the ball with Brazil's Andressa Alves (9), Formiga (20) and Fabiana during the first half an international friendly soccer match Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2015, in Seattle. The match ended in a 1-1 tie

Associated Press

Carli Lloyd scores in 85th minute, U.S. ties Brazil 1-1

TIM BOOTH
AP Sports Writer

SEATTLE (AP) — Leave it to Carli Lloyd to come through for the United States women and keep them from suffering their first home defeat in more than a decade.

Lloyd scored in the 85th minute and the World Cup champions pulled out a 1-1 tie with Brazil on Wednesday night after trailing from the opening moments in the latest stop on the American's victory tour.

She got her foot to a cross from defender Meghan Klingenberg and the shot beat goalkeeper Luciana, deflected off the underside of the crossbar and into the net. The U.S. was on the verge of suffering its first home loss in more than a decade. "Overall I think it's a good build up. Obviously we're coming off a World Cup win but we're not at our sharpest," Lloyd said. "We're kind of rebuilding and there are a lot of new faces out there. ... Overall I think it's good stuff and we can build off it and these are the teams we want to play against."

The Americans extended their home unbeaten

streak to 101 matches, their last loss coming on Nov. 6, 2004, against Denmark in Philadelphia during a post-Olympic victory tour after the 2004 Athens Games. And it was Lloyd making sure the streak continued. Lloyd was the Golden Ball winner at the Women's World Cup as the most outstanding player and capped the championship with the fastest hat trick in tournament history in the final against Japan. Lloyd has a career-high 17 goals this season.

She was in the right place against the Brazilians to finally capitalize after the U.S. missed a number of chances earlier. Brazilian defender Monica scored on a header off a corner kick in the third minute. The header beat goalkeeper Hope Solo and was the earliest goal allowed by the U.S. in at least two years.

Alex Morgan had two good chances in the first half, missing wide on a header minutes after the opening goal and later had a left-footed volley saved by Luciana. Megan Rapinoe had a scoring chance in the 69th minute off a counterattack but her left-foot-

ed shot was easily saved.

The match against Brazil was the fifth game of the U.S. victory tour after winning the Women's World Cup this summer just a couple hours north in Vancouver, British Columbia.

The two sides will play Sunday in Orlando, Florida. It was also the next stage of evaluation for the U.S. as Ellis begins to look at options for the January training camp from which the roster for Olympic qualifying will be selected.

Ellis got a look at a few new faces to the national team pool with NWSL MVP Crystal Dunn playing 72 minutes, and Jaelene Hinkle and Samantha Mewis coming on in the second half.

It was the final game for midfielder Shannon Boxx, who retired after 195 appearances for the national team.

Boxx started and was the team captain, checking out in the 41st minute. Boxx received a standing ovation from the crowd and her teammates on the U.S. bench. Solo ran up 60 yards to give Boxx a hug as she jogged off for the final time in her career. □



In this Dec. 22, 2009 file photo Dutch coach Johan Cruyff looks on during a friendly soccer match of Catalunya against Argentina at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona, Spain.

Associated Press

Dutch football great Johan Cruyff has lung cancer

MIKE CORDER

Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Dutch football great Johan Cruyff is battling lung cancer, his spokeswoman said Thursday.

"He has been in hospital this week for tests and lung cancer has been confirmed," said Carole Thate, a spokeswoman for the 68-year-old former Ajax and Barcelona star.

She gave no further comment on Cruyff's condition, saying he was undergoing further tests.

Cruyff, who personified his country's attacking Total Football in the 1970s, was a smoker during his playing days and until undergoing an emergency heart bypass in 1991. Afterward, he became the face of an anti-smoking campaign.

His career began at Ajax and took him to Barcelona where, as player and later coach, his footballing philosophy laid the foundations for the dominant Barca teams of recent years. He was also one of the marquee stars, along with Franz Beckenbauer and Pele, who moved to play in the United States to raise soccer's profile there. Cruyff played for the Los Angeles Aztecs and Washington Diplomats.

Barcelona financial vice president Susana Monje sent the club's best wishes to its former player and

coach.

"We would like from the club to give Johan Cruyff and all of his friends a very big hug after hearing today of the situation that he is living through," Monje said.

World football's governing body, FIFA, also sent its support, tweeting: "Wishing a speedy recovery to the incomparable JohanCruyff. This is just another challenge to conquer."

The Dutch football association and Ajax also expressed shock and wished Cruyff and his family well.

Cruyff took to Twitter to express his gratitude for the messages of support in Spanish, Dutch and English. "Muchas gracias, Dank jullie wel, Thank you for all your support," Cruyff tweeted.

A three-time European footballer of the year, Cruyff was synonymous with the "Clockwork Orange" Netherlands teams of the early 1970s whose attacking style earned the team fans around the world.

With Cruyff on the field, Ajax won the European Championship for three consecutive years from 1971-1973 before he moved to Barcelona in 1973 and led the middle-of-the-table team to its first national title in a decade.

Cruyff was a star of the 1974 World Cup, where the Netherlands lost 2-1 in the final to West Germany. □



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Microsoft's new businesses shine, but PC software still sags

BRANDON BAILEY
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Microsoft may still be suffering from lagging sales of personal computers, but the tech giant has taken some cues from rivals like Apple and Google — and it's now seeing substantial growth in more promising lines of business ranging from Internet apps and advertising to online games and cloud computing.

In the company's latest earnings report, issued Thursday, key segments of Microsoft's business continued to decline in the quarter ended September. Licensing payments from PC-makers were down 6 percent, a fifth straight quarter of declines, after the July launch of Microsoft's Windows 10 operating system failed to spark an immediate revival in sales.

In addition, Microsoft's decision last summer to pare back its struggling Nokia division meant the company made less money from selling mobile phones. But Microsoft reported strong performance in cloud computing, online advertising and subscriptions to online services — areas CEO Satya Nadella considers key to the company's future.

All told, the company said it had \$20.4 billion in revenue for the quarter ending Sept. 30, down 12 percent from a year earlier. Net income rose 1.7 percent to \$4.6 billion. The results drove Microsoft shares up more than 6 percent in late trading after the earnings announcement. The stock closed earlier at \$48.03, up 1.76 percent for the day.

PC makers like Hewlett-Packard and Lenovo are still hoping Windows 10 will boost PC sales this fall, when they'll be offering more new models for



In this Oct. 6, 2015, file photo, Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella closes a presentation of new devices in New York. Microsoft reports quarterly financial results Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015.

Associated Press

sale. But Thursday's report showed Nadella's increasing emphasis on other segments that promise more potential for growth.

"I think he is realistic about the role of Windows," said Gartner tech analyst David Smith. Instead of counting heavily on Windows licensing fees, Smith said, Nadella "is much more focused on cloud computing and other services. That's where the future of the company will be."

Rather than charge individual PC owners to upgrade their older versions of Windows, for example, Microsoft has been offering free upgrades to Windows 10 — much the way Apple and Google provide free updates to their operating systems for Macs, iPhones and Android devices.

Microsoft hopes to make up the revenue from other sources, such as online advertising tied to its Bing search engine and new Edge browser, which comes with Windows 10. It's also prodding consumers to

pay for ongoing subscriptions to its Xbox Live gaming network and Office 365 "productivity" software.

Analysts say Nadella's goal is to build a broad ecosystem of interrelated products, offering some for free — including Microsoft apps for Apple and Android devices — while making money from others. By getting Windows 10 onto more computers, he's also hoping to persuade independent app-makers that there's an audience for apps that work with Windows on PCs, phones, tablets and gaming consoles.

That in turn could give consumers more reason to use those devices. To some extent, that's again similar to strategies that have worked for Apple and Google, which offer a variety of online services and mobile apps to keep people using their products.

Windows 10 is now running on 110 million devices, according to Microsoft, although it hasn't said how

many are new PCs and how many are older machines whose owners took advantage of the free upgrade. Analysts say that suggests a healthy interest in the new software, although International Data Corp. estimates overall PC sales still dropped 11 percent in the third quarter.

Thursday's results were the first to reflect Microsoft's recent reshuffling of product lines into new reporting segments. Windows revenue is now lumped in the same category with online advertising, Xbox gaming and its remaining phone business.

The somewhat cosmetic move "shows the shrinking importance of Windows as a stand-alone product," said Bernstein Research analyst Mark Moerdler.

Two other categories consolidate Microsoft's other major revenue sources. One is business software, including the popular "Office" programs. The other combines data center software with cloud services, in which companies use software housed on Microsoft's servers.

The latter is Microsoft's fastest growing segment, and one where analysts say Microsoft is outshining rivals like IBM and Hewlett Packard. Yesterday, in fact, HP announced it will shut down its public cloud-computing service, a tacit admission of defeat. □

Yahoo to team up with Google in Internet search, advertising

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Yahoo is leaning on Google's expertise in Internet search and advertising in its latest attempt to boost its revenue.

The proposed three-year partnership was announced Tuesday after Yahoo released its third-quarter results. The numbers represented the latest in a long succession of disappointing performances for Yahoo, with the company's net revenue slipping 8 percent from the previous year.

Yahoo Inc. tried to team up with Google in search during 2008 as part of its defense against a takeover attempt by Microsoft. The Google alliance unraveled after the U.S. Justice Department threatened to block the partnership on the grounds that it would thwart competition. The new deal still must be approved by antitrust regulators. Yahoo will still rely on technology from Microsoft's Bing search engine as part of a 6-year-old partnership. □

Best Buy drops shipping fees for the holidays

A. D'INNOCENZIO
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Best Buy, the nation's largest consumer electronic chain, will drop all restrictions for free shipping for the holiday season, underscoring big changes in what customers have come to expect when they shop. The Minneapolis company typically requires customers to spend at least \$35 in order to receive free shipping.

Starting Sunday, however, that restriction has been removed as Best Buy aims to compete aggressively with online leader Amazon.com as well as other players like Wal-Mart and Target. About 47 percent of consumers polled said that free shipping or shipping promotions are important factors in their decision on where they shop, according to a survey of 7,276 consumers conducted earlier this

month for the National Retail Federation. Amazon set the standard with its two-day delivery for members of its Prime loyal program, who pay \$99 a year. Best Buy's free-shipping program runs through Jan. 2. The last time Best Buy dropped the shipping fee for all customers was 2012. The retailer is also offering a special holiday sales event at 400 of its stores on Nov.

7 that will feature "Black Friday-like deals." Last year's event was limited to Best Buy's Elite and Elite Plus loyalty customers. Best Buy has momentum heading into the holiday season as a turnaround spearheaded by CEO Hubert Joly has gains traction. The company is also benefiting from a shift in consumer spending toward big ticket items for the home as home prices rise. □

Community predicts 3Q earnings miss as hospital shares sink

TOM MURPHY
AP Business Writer

Hospital stocks tanked Thursday after another big chain warned Wall Street that it won't meet third-quarter earnings expectations.

Community Health Systems said Wednesday after markets closed that patient admissions fell about 2 percent at its established locations in the quarter, and it saw a decrease in the percentage of people covered by commercial insurance, which offers the best reimbursement. The Franklin, Tennessee, chain expects adjusted earnings for the quarter that ends Sept. 30 to be 56 cents per share.

That falls well below the average of 72 cents per share expected on Wall Street, according to FactSet.

Community's earnings preview came a week after HCA Holdings Inc. also said it would miss expectations for the quarter and that it was hit by higher labor costs and a greater percentage of uninsured patients.

Analysts say they don't see a lot of common themes in the previews so far, and they aren't sure whether disappointing patient totals will stick around at these hospitals.

Goldman Sachs analyst Matthew Borsch said in a research note that hospitals have seen several quarters of patient growth as the Affordable Care Act expanded patient coverage to the uninsured, and this may be a "big chill" on that.

The timing of Labor Day also may have hurt hospitals in the third quarter, BMO Capital Markets analyst Jen Lynch said. Labor Day fell later this year, and patients generally avoid scheduling inpatient procedures before the holiday weekend and then immediately after it. That could have led to slower-than-expected business in the quarter's final month. Hospitals generally do more business in the year's final quarter. □

Strong company earnings send stocks sharply higher

ALEX VEIGA
AP Business Writer

The U.S. stock market rebounded Thursday from a two-day slump, notching its biggest gain in more than two weeks and pushing the Dow Jones industrial average up more than 300 points. The gains brought the Standard & Poor's 500 index

News that the European Central Bank could consider expanding its stimulus program in December also helped rally the market. Such a move could help stimulate spending in the region, a plus for U.S. companies struggling with declining overseas revenue, said Bob Doll, chief equity strategist at Nuveen Asset

17,489.16. The S&P 500 index rose 33.57 points, or 1.7 percent, to 2,052.51. The last time the Dow and S&P 500 delivered bigger single-day gains was Oct. 5. The Nasdaq added 79.93 points, or 1.7 percent, to 4,920.05. A surge in European stocks set the stage for the three major U.S. stock indexes to

"The market was in a tight trading range leading up to today's move to the upside, waiting for a catalyst in essence to push the market in one direction or the other," said Quincy Krosby, a market strategist at Prudential Financial. "And you can see clearly that the Draghi comments were very positively received by the market."

Beyond that, investors pored over the latest slate of company earnings, which helped put them in a buying mood.

Traders bid up eBay, which reported earnings late Wednesday that came in well ahead of what analysts were expecting. The e-commerce company jumped \$3.37, or 13.9 percent, to \$27.58.

McDonald's climbed 8.1 percent after the world's largest burger chain handily beat Wall Street estimates and said its sales increased in the third quarter. McDonald's shares added \$8.33 to \$110.87.

Texas Instruments' earnings also beat projections. The company also gave an upbeat outlook for the current quarter. The stock vaulted \$6.19, or 11.9 percent, to \$58.09.

Some companies turned in disappointing results, which sent their share prices tumbling.

Homebuilder PulteGroup fell \$1.29, or 6.6 percent, to \$18.16. American Express slid 5.2 percent a day after the credit card issuer reported a 16 percent drop in profits and cut its full-year forecast. The stock lost \$4.01 to \$72.50. □



Trader Kevin Walsh works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015. Stocks closed higher in trading after encouraging results from McDonald's, eBay, Google and other companies.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

nearly back to breakeven for the year following steep declines in August and September. Industrials stocks were among the index's biggest gainers.

The rally followed a batch of encouraging earnings from McDonald's, eBay and other companies. Alphabet, Microsoft and Amazon also delivered better-than-expected results shortly after the close of regular trading.

Management. "We've had some pretty good earnings in a season that so far has been mixed," Doll said. "Then you layer some chatter out from the ECB, and all the uncertainty and skepticism and negativism, and the mass amount of cash on the sidelines, and it doesn't take much to get a rally going." The Dow climbed 320.55 points, or 1.9 percent, to

go higher early on Thursday. Mario Draghi, head of the European Central Bank, signaled that the bank could boost monetary stimulus at its meeting in December. That raised expectations that the ECB might extend its \$1.2 trillion bond purchase program. Draghi also said that the ECB was also considering other measures, such as further cutting one of its key interest rates.

Caterpillar weighed down by slowing economic growth

PEORIA, Ill. (AP) — Caterpillar was stung by ongoing weakness in the mining and oil and gas industries during the third quarter and revenue fell short of expectations.

The construction and mining equipment maker lowered its full-year earnings forecast with expectations that the costs of restructuring the company will rise

sharply.

Shares fell more than 2 percent before the opening bell Thursday.

Last month Caterpillar announced another round of job cuts that could exceed 10,000 people through 2018. The company said that it would cut as many as 5,000 people mostly by the end of this year from its salaried and management

workforce. It then could cut thousands more, raising the total above 10,000, as it figures out which factories and manufacturing sites to close through 2018.

Caterpillar makes diesel and natural gas engines, industrial gas turbines and diesel-electric locomotives, aside from construction and mining equipment. Several sectors that it

serves have been afflicted by problems beyond the company's control.

Quarterly revenue fell from \$13.55 billion last year to \$10.96 billion, well short of \$11.11 billion that Wall Street was looking for, according to a survey by Zacks Investment Research expected.

Machinery, energy and transportation sales

dropped in the period, as did revenue for the financial products segment.

Caterpillar said that its total revenue decline was mostly due to lower sales volume and the impact of the stronger dollar. Sales dropped 31 percent in Latin America and fell 25 percent in the Asia Pacific region. North American sales slipped 17 percent. □

Cheap fuel, rising revenue help boost Southwest Airlines



A Southwest Airlines plane with a new paint job flies over Love Field in Dallas. Southwest reported quarterly financial results Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015.

(AP Photo/LM Otero)

DAVID KOENIG
AP Airlines Writer

DALLAS (AP) — Cheaper fuel and higher revenue boosted Southwest Airlines

to a record third quarter profit of \$584 million.

Passengers paid lower average fares in the third quarter than a year ago,

but that could be about to change. Southwest said that a key revenue per mile figure will rise in the fourth quarter, likely indicating

that it expects higher fares. The stock rose more than 7 percent in afternoon trading Thursday.

Southwest said Thursday that net income increased by \$225 million from last year's third quarter, helped by fuel-pump savings of \$450 million, or 32 percent. CEO Gary Kelly called it "a terrific quarter."

"While it is true that the majority of the 71 percent surge in our earnings per share was due to a dramatic drop in jet fuel prices, there are a lot of other good things happening," Kelly said on a call with analysts.

He cited solid demand, the smallest percentage of empty seats in Southwest's history, and a new credit-card deal that brought in more cash.

Excluding non-repeating

items, Southwest said it earned 94 cents per share. That topped Wall Street expectations, as nine analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research predicted 92 cents per share.

Revenue rose 11 percent, to \$5.32 billion, which also topped the analysts' forecast.

Three analysts surveyed by Zacks expected \$5.1 billion. Southwest has been growing rapidly in its hometown of Dallas since federal restrictions on flights at Love Field expired a year ago. That helped Southwest increase traffic by 9 percent and fill 85.4 percent of its seats, an increase of 1 percentage point from a year ago.

The average fare on Southwest fell 4 percent, to \$154.33 for a one-way ticket. □

Google's 3Q earnings surge 45 pct, Alphabet stock soars

MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Google's third-quarter report is getting an "A" from investors as it enters a new era under Alphabet, its new parent company.

A third-quarter report released Thursday indicated that Google is making significant strides in the increasingly important mobile market, with its earnings surging 45 percent to nearly \$4 billion, or \$5.73 per share.

The gains also reflected the financial discipline that has been imposed by Google's recently hired chief financial officer, Ruth Porat: The company's operating expenses rose at slightly slow-

er pace than revenue.

Google's revenue for the three months ending in September totaled \$18.7 billion. After subtracting ad commissions, revenue totaled \$15.1 billion, a 15 percent increase from last year.

Both the earnings and revenue topped the analysts' projections that steer investors' expectations.

The results "show the strength of Google's business, particularly in mobile search," Porat said.

Investors agreed as Alphabet's stock soared \$66.21, or more than 10 percent, to \$718. If the shares hit that level in Friday's regular session, it will be a new peak for the stock.

The report covered a three-month period ending September that punctuated Google's 11-year history as a publicly traded company. Earlier this month, Google became a subsidiary of Alphabet Inc., a holding company created to oversee the hodgepodge of businesses that have been launched with the tens of billions of dollars that Google has made as the Internet's dominant search engine.

In January, Alphabet will report Google's financial numbers separately from a group of peripheral businesses that experiment with self-driving cars, invest in startups, make Internet-connected thermostats

and search for cures to health problems.

That breakdown is expected to reveal how much money Google would have been making in recent years if it hadn't been diverting billions of dollars to finance risky projects that Alphabet CEO Larry Page calls "moon shots."

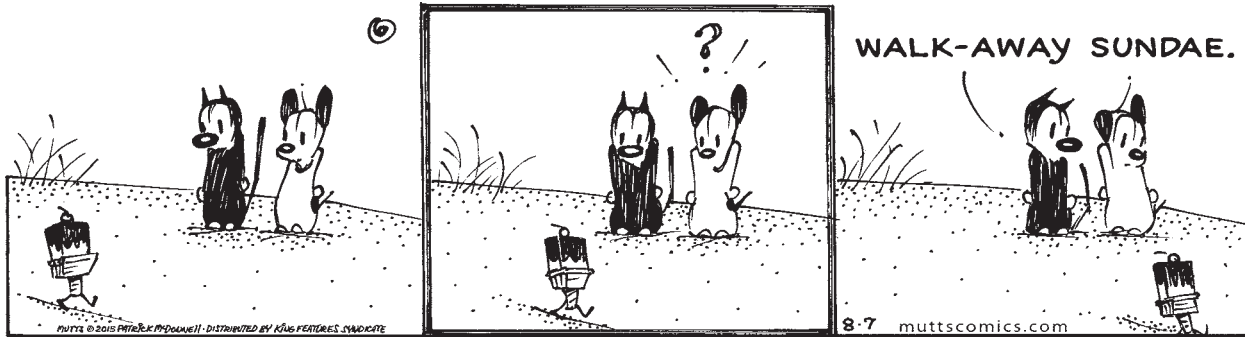
Google's profit margins also have been squeezed by the shift to mobile devices from laptop and desktop computers during the past five years. The company was better prepared for the upheaval than most of its technology peers because it had the foresight to build and develop Android, a mobile operating system that features

Google's search engine, maps, email and YouTube video site.

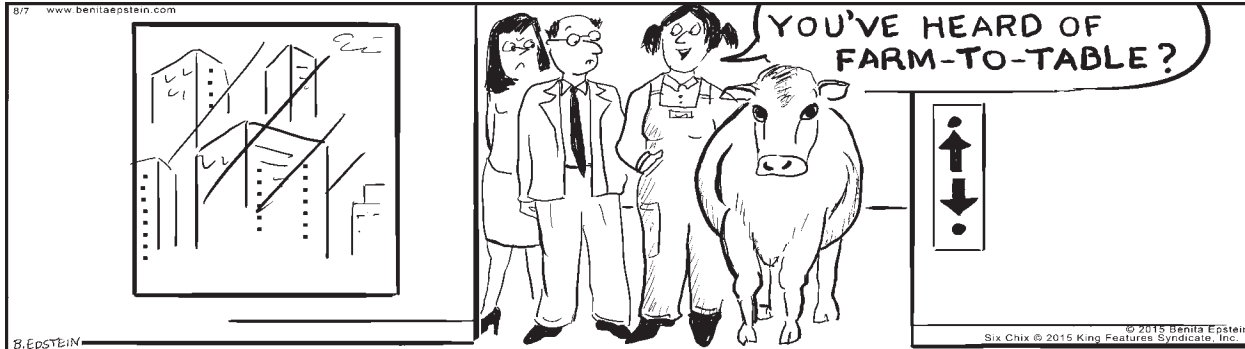
Even though Android is being used on 1.4 billion devices around the world, Google still has been hurt by the move to mobile. That's because advertisers haven't been as willing to pay as much for marketing messages shown on the smaller screens of smartphones.

The phenomenon is one reason that Google's average price for ads, a statistic known as "cost per click," has been declined for four straight years. The third-quarter cost per click dropped another 11 percent from the same time last year. □

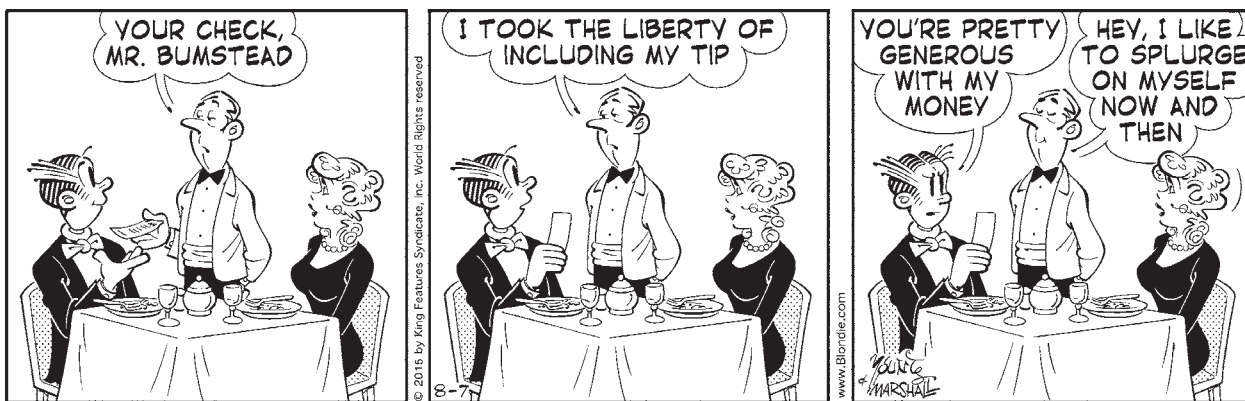
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			4		2			
		4				8		
	7	8				3	5	
6			2		7			5
7			9		6			3
	9	2				1	4	
		7				9		
			6		4			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

8/07

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

5	2	3	1	8	7	4	9	6
9	7	6	4	5	2	3	1	8
8	1	4	9	3	6	5	7	2
6	3	7	2	4	9	1	8	5
1	4	8	7	6	5	9	2	3
2	9	5	3	1	8	7	6	4
4	5	2	8	7	1	6	3	9
7	6	9	5	2	3	8	4	1
3	8	1	6	9	4	2	5	7

ACROSS

- 1 Sheep's cry
- 6 Dishonest way to make money
- 10 One of the Three Bears
- 14 Bird of prey
- 15 Castro's land
- 16 Old
- 17 Word with right, acute or obtuse
- 18 Rainbows
- 19 Use a Kindle
- 20 Look like
- 22 Take a ; gamble
- 24 Coat with a thin layer of gold
- 25 Roller ; ride for the daring
- 26 Greek goddess of wisdom
- 29 Numerical comparison
- 30 Parched
- 31 Evil demon
- 33 Peruvian pack animal
- 37 Guacamole and salsa
- 39 Robes in India
- 41 on; incite
- 42 Eyeglasses, for short
- 44 Log floats
- 46 American ; North Dakota's state tree
- 47 Traveler's stop
- 49 Steers clear of
- 51 Ousted from the throne
- 54 Army vehicle
- 55 Flowering; in blossom
- 56 Very confused mental state
- 60 Newborn horse
- 61 Tearful request
- 63 As silly as a
- 64 "Measure twice, cut"
- 65 Slender; thin
- 66 Abhors
- 67 Watched
- 68 Geologic ages
- 69 Rubbish

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15				16			
17					18				19			
20					21			22	23			
24							25					
26	27	28				29						
30			31		32			33	34	35	36	
37			38		39			40	41			
42			43		44			45		46		
47								49	50			
51	52	53					54					
55						56				57	58	59
60					61	62			63			
64					65				66			
67					68				69			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/7/15

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

DOWN

- 1 Tote; carry
- 2 Path
- 3 Breakfast order
- 4 State without proof
- 5 Abounding
- 6 Overcook milk
- 7 Make well
- 8 Big TV network
- 9 The Phillie Phanatic, e.g.
- 10 Umbrellas
- 11 Representative
- 12 "War and"
- 13 Deadly viper
- 21 Has the ; is blue and bored
- 23 "Mary, full of grace..."
- 25 Nev.'s neighbor
- 26 Tallies up
- 27 Stumble
- 28 Excessive publicity
- 29 Not of the city
- 32 Rowed
- 34 Ridiculed
- 35 Stubborn critter
- 36 Upper limbs
- 38 Taught
- 40 Common metal
- 43 Unexceptional
- 45 of hand; magician's skill
- 48 Star of "Heidi"
- 50 Tumult
- 51 Actor Willem
- 52 Black wood
- 53 Location
- 54 Levi's
- 56 College official
- 57 Smidgen
- 58 up; depletes
- 59 Fit snugly together
- 62 Zodiac lion

Drug compounder offers cheap version of costly Turing drug



This photo shows a technician inside Imprimis Pharmaceuticals in Irvine, Calif. Imprimis Pharmaceuticals Inc., which mixes approved drug ingredients to fill individual patient prescriptions, said Thursday, Oct. 22, 2015, it will supply capsules containing Daraprim's active ingredients, pyrimethamine and leucovorin, for \$99 for a 100-capsule bottle.

(Joel Morillo of Passage Productions via AP)

AP Business Writer

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Stepping into the furor over eye-popping price spikes for old generic medicines, a maker of compounded drugs will begin selling \$1 doses of Daraprim, whose price recently was jacked up to \$750 per pill by Turing Pharmaceuticals. San Diego-based Imprimis Pharmaceuticals Inc., which mixes approved drug ingredients to fill individual patient prescriptions, said Thursday it will supply capsules containing Daraprim's active ingredients, pyrimethamine and leucovorin, for \$99 for a 100-capsule bottle, via its site: www.imprimiscare.com. The 3 1/2-year-old drug compounding firm also plans to start making inexpensive versions of other generic drugs whose prices have skyrocketed, Chief Executive Mark Baum told The Associated Press. "We are looking at all of these cases where the sole-source generic companies are jacking the price way up," Baum said in an interview. "There'll be many more of these" compounded drugs coming in the near future. The high price of prescription medicines in the U.S. — from drugs for cancer and rare diseases that cost hundreds of thousands of dollars a year down to once-cheap generic drugs now costing many times their old price — has become a hot issue in the 2016 presidential race. News

that Turing, Valeant Pharmaceuticals International Inc. and other drugmakers have bought rights to old, cheap medicines that are the only treatment for serious diseases and then hiked prices severalfold has angered patients. It's triggered government investigations, politicians' proposals to fight "price gouging," heavy media scrutiny and a big slump in biotech stock prices. At the eye of the storm is former hedge fund manager Mar-

tin Shkreli, head of Turing Pharmaceuticals, scorned last month for buying rights to and then increasing by more than 5,000 percent the price of Daraprim, a 62-year old drug with no competition. The startup drugmaker paid Impax Laboratories \$55 million in August for rights to Daraprim, which treats a rare parasitic infection called toxoplasmosis that mainly strikes pregnant women, cancer patients and AIDS patients. Imprimis, which primarily makes compounded drugs to treat cataracts and urological conditions, will work with health insurers and prescription benefit managers in each state to make its new capsules and other compounded generic medicines widely available, Baum said. "We're geared up. We're ready to go as soon as the orders come in," he said. Compounded drugs are typically made to fill a doctor's prescription for an

individual patient, sometimes because the mass-produced version is in short supply or completely unavailable and sometimes to allow for customized formulations or dosages. Compounders don't need Food and Drug Administration approval to do that, unlike drugmakers making huge batches of drugs on complex production lines. Baum said Imprimis will produce its pyrimethamine/leucovorin capsules, using bulk ingredients from manufacturing plants approved by the FDA, at its own facilities in Allen, Texas; Folcroft, Pennsylvania; Irvine, California, and Randolph, New Jersey. Turing's Shkreli, under fire from all sides, said late last month that he would lower the price of Daraprim, but hasn't so far. A Turing spokesman didn't respond to a request for comment Thursday but recently noted the company is capping patient copayments at \$10.

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wk 42	room 338	\$4,000
wk 43	room 329	\$3,250
wk 49	room 144	\$5,500
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Study finds the warmer it gets, the more world economy hurts

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — With each upward degree, global warming will singe the economies of three-quarters of the world's nations and widen the north-south gap between rich and poor countries, according to a new economic and science study. Compared to what it would be without more global warming, the average global income will shrivel 23 percent at the end of the century if heat-trapping carbon dioxide pollution continues to grow at its current trajectory, according to a study published Wednesday in the scientific journal Nature.

Some countries, like Russia, Mongolia and Canada, would see large economic benefits from global warming, the study projects. Most of Europe would do slightly better, the United States and China slightly worse. Essentially all of Africa, Asia, South America and the Middle East would be hurt dramatically, the economists found.

"What climate change is doing is basically devaluing all the real estate south of the United States and making the whole planet less productive," said study co-author Solomon Hsiang, an economist and public policy professor at the University of California Berkeley. "Climate change is es-



In this June 3, 2013 file photo, Pakistani laborers bathe at a leaked water hydrant at the end of a day on the outskirts of Islamabad.

entially a massive transfer of value from the hot parts of the world to the cooler parts of the world."

"This is like taking from the poor and giving to the rich," Hsiang said.

Lead author Marshall Burke of Stanford and Hsiang examined 50 years of economic data in 160 countries and even county-by-county data in the United States and found what Burke called "the goldilocks zone in global temperature at which humans are good at producing stuff" — an annual temperature of around 13 degrees Celsius or 55.4 degrees Fahrenheit, give or take a degree.

For countries colder than that economic sweet spot,

every degree of warming heats up the economy and benefits. For the United States and other countries already at or above that temperature, every degree slows productivity, Burke and Hsiang said.

The 20th-century global average annual temperature is 57 degrees, or 13.9 degrees Celsius, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Last year — the hottest on record — was 58.24 degrees and this year is almost certain to break that record, according to NOAA. Burke and Hsiang use different population-weighted temperature figures than NOAA calculates.

But the U.S. economy is

humming despite the heat. When asked how that can be so, Burke said there were many factors important for growth beyond just temperature. He said one year's temperature and economic growth in one nation isn't telling. Instead, he and Hsiang looked at more than 6,000 "country-years" to get a bigger picture.

Burke compared the effect of global warming on economies to a head wind on a cross-country airplane flight. The effects at any given moment are small and seemingly unnoticeable but they add up and slow you down.

While it is fairly obvious that unusual high temperatures hurt agriculture, past studies show hot days even reduce car production at U.S. factories, Burke said.

"The U.S. is really close to the global optimum," Burke said, adding that as it warms, the U.S. will fall off that peak. The authors calculate a warmer U.S. in 2100 will have a gross domestic product per person that's 36 percent lower than it would be if warming stopped about now.

But because the U.S. is now at that ultimate peak, there's greater uncertainty in the study's calculations than in places like India, Pakistan, Vietnam, Nigeria and Venezuela where it's already hot and there's more certainty about dramatic economic harm, Hsiang said.

The authors' main figures are based on the premise that carbon dioxide emissions will continue to rise at the current trajectory. But countries across the world are pledging to control if not cut carbon pollution as international leaders prepare for a summit on climate change in Paris later this year. If the current pledges are kept, the warming cost in 2100 will drop from 23 percent to 15 percent, Burke said.

Gary Yohe, an environmental economist at Wesleyan University in Connecticut, praised the study as significant and thorough, saying Burke and Hsiang "use the most modern socio-economic scenarios." But Richard Tol, an economist at the University of Sussex in England, dismissed the study as unworthy to be published in an economics journal, saying "the hypothesized relationship is without foundation."

Other experts found good and bad points, with MIT's John Reilly saying it will spark quite a debate among economists. □

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24/7

Years after CBS scandal, answers to Bush questions elusive

DAVID BAUDER
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Rushing to meet a deadline proved to be the downfall of Dan Rather and his CBS News team when their story questioning former President George W. Bush's military record collapsed in 2004, a media scandal that is the basis of the current film "Truth."

As it turns out, 11 years may not have been enough time: Many uncertainties remain. Rather and his producer, Mary Mapes, still believe in what they reported and even some who found CBS' initial story a journalistic disaster think their account of Bush's service may be right. But barring a change of heart among people who knew Bush when he served in the Texas Air National Guard in the 1970s, or Bush himself addressing his record, the story is probably at a dead end.

Prior to CBS' report, several news organizations pursued stories about whether Bush's National Guard unit was one where elites landed to avoid being sent to the Vietnam War, and whether Bush essentially skated through his last year of service. It was trumpeted as a breakthrough when CBS reported on documents supposedly written by Bush's former commander, Lt. Col. Jerry Killian, saying Bush did not take a mandatory physical exam and that Killian felt pressured to sugarcoat an evaluation.



In this image released by Sony Pictures Classics, Dan Rather, from left, Mary Mapes and Robert Redford appear on the set of "Truth."

Mapes had obtained the documents less than a week before the story aired, two months before Bush was up for re-election. In one of the first online attacks prompting action by a mainstream news organization, bloggers immediately questioned whether the documents were fake. They suggested Killian's letter contained a computer character inconsistent with typewriters at the time. CBS initially defended the story, then apologized when its executives realized they couldn't vouch for its accuracy, and picked an independent panel to investigate what went wrong. Following the frantic and unsuccessful effort to back up their work to their boss' satisfaction, Rather and

Mapes were ordered off the story. She was later fired and he left the network.

OTHER QUESTIONS RAISED Although doubts were later raised about those initial attacks — there were some 1970s era typewriters that had the character in question — other serious questions remained about the documents' authenticity and the reliability of CBS' source. It was essentially impossible to get a reputable expert to definitively state they were real given that CBS did not have the original documents and copying causes deterioration, Mapes wrote in her book, "Truth and Duty: The Press, The President and The Privileges of Power."

The panel that studied CBS' actions on the story,

chaired by former Attorney General Richard Thornburgh and Louis Boccardi, former chief executive of The Associated Press, said it could not determine whether they were real. The panel couldn't trace how they came into the hands of CBS' source and, with Killian dead, couldn't find anyone who could vouch for their creation.

"You can argue that we never got to the original documents," Rather said in an interview. "But nobody has ever proven that they were anything other than what they were purported to be." The panel considered that view years earlier and said that while it might make a good argument, it doesn't pass journalistic muster because it lacked

positive proof.

Whether scared off by doubtful documents, dead ends or political heat applied to CBS, other news organizations rapidly lost interest in pursuing the story, said Mark Feldstein, a University of Maryland professor who is writing a book on journalism scandals, including the CBS story.

"Nobody wanted to get into that tempest," he said, with one exception — a 2012 Texas Monthly magazine article.

But details of Bush's military service before his October 1973 honorable discharge have proven elusive.

Rather said the documents got too much attention and were only part of the reporting that Mapes and the CBS team did. "The story is true," he said.

The film is based on Mapes' book, advancing her belief that the documents are legitimate, and characterizes the panel looking into the story as being more interested in assessing blame than in the story itself, and protecting CBS' corporate interests. Boccardi, who hasn't seen the movie yet, said he doesn't want the extent of CBS' journalistic failures in the "60 Minutes" report overlooked. He did note that there were contradictions, and changed stories, among people familiar with Bush's military record. "Thornburgh and I know what happened in the gathering of that story and in the airing of that story and the aftermath of it," he said. □

Sanders, Burton, Shepp named 2016 NEA Jazz Masters

WASHINGTON (AP) — Saxophonists Pharoah Sanders and Archie Shepp and vibraphonist Gary Burton are the newest recipients of the nation's highest jazz honor. They have been chosen as the 2016 Jazz Masters by the National Endowment for the Arts, it was announced Thursday. Wendy Oxenhorn, executive director of the Jazz Foundation of America,

which assists musicians in need, received the Jazz Masters Award for advocacy.

Sanders gained prominence in John Coltrane's band, going on to record the spiritually themed, free jazz album "Karma" (1969). Shepp blended avant-garde jazz with African influences on "The Magic of Ju-Ju" (1967) and delivered a powerful civil rights mes-

sage on the 1972 albums "Attica Blues" and "The Cry of My People."

Burton, who opened a new musical vocabulary for the vibraphone with his four-mallet technique, has won seven Grammys, mostly for his duets with pianist Chick Corea.

The awards will be presented on April 4 at a concert at the Kennedy Center in Washington. □



In this Feb. 2009 file photo, vibraphonist Gary Burton poses backstage with his award for Best Jazz Instrumental Album, Individual or Group for "The New Crystal Palace" at the 51st Annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Will Smith to perform at Latin Grammys with Colombian band

NEW YORK (AP) — Will Smith is set to perform at the Latin Grammy Awards on Nov. 19.

Smith will join Colombian band Bomba Estereo on-stage for their remix of "Fiesta" at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

Smith and the group released the remix earlier this month. The original version of the song, without Smith, is nominated for record of the year at the Latin Grammys.

Other performers at the 16th annual awards show include ChocQuibTown, J Balvin, Natalia Jimenez, Juan Luis Guerra, Matisse and Raquel Sofia.

The "Fiesta" remix is Smith's first release in a decade. Bomba Estereo, known for



In this Feb. 24, 2015 file photo, Will Smith arrives at the world premiere of "Focus" in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

its blend of Latin, tropical and electro sounds, is also nominated for best alternative music album for "Amanecer."

Singer-songwriter Leonel Garcia leads the nominees with six. The show will air live on Univision. □

Simon Cowell replacing Howard Stern on NBC's 'America's Got Talent'

NEW YORK (AP) — Simon Cowell is heading back in front of the cameras as a replacement for Howard Stern as a judge on NBC's summertime series "America's Got Talent."

NBC announced Thursday that Cowell, one of the show's producers and creators of the format, will start next season. The show has remained one of summer's most popular programs even as ratings for other reality shows have faded.

Cowell's caustic commentary on Fox's "American Idol" is what launched him into U.S. stardom. He left "American Idol" after the 2010 season, when it was still one of television's top shows, and will begin on "America's Got Talent" shortly after "American Idol" goes off the air for the final time.

"What I love about this show is that it's open to absolutely anyone," Cowell said. "America has some



In this Feb. 24, 2015 file photo, Simon Cowell poses for photographers at the Elle Style Awards in London.

Associated Press

fantastic talent just waiting to be discovered, and I would like that talent to come to our show, including any dogs who can sing."

Besides Stern, other judges this past season were Howie Mandel, Mel B and Heidi Klum. NBC has not announced whether the other judges will return. Nick Cannon has hosted the show. □

Ed Sheeran likes to perform when he's feeling hung over



In this Friday, Oct. 16, 2015 photo, Ed Sheeran poses for a portrait in promotion of his full-length concert feature, "Ed Sheeran: Jumpers for Goalposts," in New York.

Associated Press

ALICIA RANCILIO
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Singer-songwriter Ed Sheeran says he's realized something about himself: He performs best when he's hung over. So he "made sure" to go out drinking the night before his three sold-out shows at Wembley Stadium in London last summer.

"I don't know why the best gigs I've ever played have been after real heavy nights," said Sheeran, 24, in a recent interview. "I think it's just because you walk onstage, you're not complacent, you're not on-stage being like, 'Oh, I've done this a million times.' You walk onstage being like, 'You know, I'm 90 percent the human I should be so I'll make sure I give 115 percent.'"

Sheeran's performances

at Wembley Stadium were filmed for the new concert film "Jumpers for Goalposts."

The film, which will have its world premiere at London's Leicester Square on Thursday — where Sheeran will also perform — will screen in selected theaters worldwide Friday through Sunday. "I just find whenever I'm on a British Airlines flight I always watch someone's concert film and it always like, I was never really a fan of Justin Bieber, and then I watched 'Never Say Never' and then it made sense, so I was like, 'Oh, oh. I get it now.'"

"So I wanted to make a film that I could put on British Airlines flights and have Chinese businessmen like my music," Sheeran said with a laugh.

He believes a big rea-

son why was able to play Wembley Stadium is his success on Spotify.

His song "Thinking out Loud" has set a Spotify record for reaching 500 million streams. The streaming service says he's second in streams behind Eminem.

Not every musician is a fan of Spotify, like Sheeran's pal Taylor Swift, who pulled her songs from the site last year. (Some artists don't like Spotify because they receive small royalty rates for their songs.)

"The Spotify thing is a weird argument," said Sheeran. "A lot of people go on about the financial thing with Spotify and I definitely do agree with that for small artists and writers who are looking to get checks and stuff like that, but I think if you're a big touring artist you shouldn't really complain about it because I can now tour all around the world doing stadiums from Spotify."

"I can go to Norway and Iceland and Thailand, just like random places where CD sales are not prevalent," he said. "... So Spotify, for me, it works, because I am a touring act." He said the conversation with Spotify is more for new, upcoming acts and writers. "I think that's where the revenue should go, but I think when you're a big touring act use it to your advantage." □

'Real Housewives' star NeNe Leakes to return to Broadway

MARK KENNEDY
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — NeNe Leakes, who moved on from "The Real Housewives of Atlanta," is moving back to Broadway.

Producers of the long-running hit musical "Chicago" said Thursday that Leakes will play "Mama" Morton in the show at the Ambassador Theatre from Nov. 23 through Dec. 20.

It's her first return to Broad-

way since she made her stage debut last year in the role of Cinderella's wicked stepmother in "Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella." She played Coach Roz Washington on Fox's "Glee" and appeared on NBC's "The New Normal" and ABC's "Dancing With the Stars."

Leakes didn't return for the eighth season of "The Real Housewives of Atlanta." □



In this Sept. 20, 2015 file photo, NeNe Leakes attends the Fox/FX Emmy Awards after party in Los Angeles.

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